



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

Noe Brims with Holiday Spirit

By Laura McHale Holland

Holiday gatherings, volunteer opportunities, musical and dramatic events, Christmas pageants, Santa visits, collection barrels for toys, food, and clothes—they're all here in Noe Valley this season. So, come on out and catch some spirit.

Hanukkah comes early this year, but it's not too late for you to help celebrate what Rabbi Michael Lerner of the Beyt Tikkun Community Synagogue calls "the first national liberation struggle." (Hanukkah commemorates the victory in 165 B.C. of the Maccabees over the occupying forces of Antiochus Epiphanes.) Neighbors—Jews and non-Jews, children and adults—are invited to not one, but two celebrations on Friday evening, Dec. 6.

The Hanukkah bash sponsored by the Jewish orthodox group Chabad of Noe Valley starts at 6 p.m. and takes place at 889 Elizabeth Street. "Everyone's welcome. You can expect a very lively and enthusiastic Jewish experience. It's not to be missed," says Rabbi Gedalia Potash. For more details, call Potash at 821-7046.

The Beyt Tikkun celebration will begin at 7 p.m. at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez Street, at 23rd Street. There will be a candle-lighting ceremony, followed by a telling of the Hanukkah story, singing, dancing, a Shabbat service, and a vegetarian potluck. Admission is a main course veggie dish to share. For more information about Beyt Tikkun, call 575-1432 or e-mail rabbilerner@tikkun.org.

A week later, Santa's sleigh will be



A blustery storm played branches and stirred up the leaves on 25th Street in early November, but the air was crisp and dry in Noe Valley by Thanksgiving. Temperatures were so balmy, in fact, some folks worried that Santa's reindeer might pass us by.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

pulling into town—for a whirlwind visit to 24th Street. On Saturday, Dec. 14, old St. Nick will listen to children's wishes at the Bank of America (corner of 24th and Castro streets) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., as a favor to the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association. Incredibly, on that same day, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Santa will also hold forth at Zephyr Real Estate, a half a block down the street at

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What Every Neighborhood Should Have: A Book Designer or Two

By Olivia Boler

Admit it—it's unavoidable. If you take part in, to put it in a p.c. way, "December gift-giving rituals," and you also spend time on 24th Street, chances are you are going to make a pit stop at either Just for Fun, Cover to Cover Book-

sellors, or both. If and when you do, be sure to look for a little square book, approximately 7 by 7 inches, titled *What Every Woman Should Have*. Do this because underneath the title is a photo of women's garments hanging on a clothesline, or because you truly want to know what every woman should have, or for no other reason than that this gift/humor book was designed by two women one block up on Elizabeth Street at Herter Studio.

Caroline Herter, 48, is the owner and founder of Herter Studio, a self-described independent publishing studio for which Herter wears a variety of hats. The company, run out of Herter's flat, consists of

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Street People Leery of 'Care Not Cash'

If you've heard the election results, then you know that Supervisor Gavin Newsom's "Care Not Cash" measure, known as Prop. N on the Nov. 5 ballot, was approved by 60 percent of San Francisco voters. (In Noe Valley, the vote was 59 percent.) Prop. N's passage means that

cash grants to the close to 3,000 homeless adults who now receive general assistance in San Francisco will be cut from \$395 to \$59 a month, starting as early as July 1. To make up for the cash reduction, the city has promised to provide vouchers for housing, food, and treatment programs.



Albert Mioduszewski is not directly affected by the passage of "Care Not Cash," since his veteran's benefits help pay his rent. However, he has sold the *Street Sheet* long enough to know that the city needs to provide more housing for the homeless.

Photo by Heidi Anderson

By Heidi Anderson

It's clear that Newsom and a majority of the electorate are looking forward to this overhaul of homeless services. But what do the homeless think of this "end to welfare as we've known it"? To find out the local reaction, the *Voice* checked in with some of the street people who frequent Noe Valley's commercial strip.

Will There Be Enough Hotel Rooms?

On a recent weekend in November, when the weather swung back and forth between storm and sun, several panhandlers stood at their usual posts on the sidewalks of 24th and Castro streets.

Among them was Anthony, a 50-year-old man who has been homeless for more than two years. Anthony, who preferred not to give his last name (like several others in this story), gets money by selling the *Street Sheet*, a newspaper put out by the Coalition on Homelessness. Like most of the people we talked to, he is skeptical of the new law.

"I'm just hoping the hotels will accept the vouchers we get," he says, while watching the pedestrian traffic outside Walgreen's on Castro Street.

Ironically, Anthony was set to receive his first government assistance check in November. "I start this week getting gov-

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Jingle Bell Time Is a Swell Time

The *Voice* staff is grabbing the reins and shouting "Giddyup!" We're set to travel east and north of our fair valley in search of the best seats at holiday feasts. After that, there's a couch with our name on it—perfect for a long winter's nap in between 49er games. We think we've earned a break. This is the 10th issue of our 25th year of producing your favorite community newspaper. We love the work, but it wouldn't feel like December if we didn't do some goofing off.

We'll return refreshed and fattened in January and put together your February 2003 issue, due on the streets Feb. 1. Your deadline for all things of an editorial nature is Wednesday, Jan. 15. Your display ads need to be in by Friday, Jan. 17. (Call Steve at 239-1114.)

Maybe we'll see you during our mixing and mingling. If not, we wish you the best with a cheery jingling beat. □

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*Don't forget our Annual Toy Barrel. Please bring unwrapped
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*Also this year, please bring non-perishable food items
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LETTERS 37¢

License the Dog Walkers

Editor:

Today (Oct. 30, 2002), I found myself in the unfortunate position of having to defend myself and my daughter from a pair of abusive dog walkers. We were eating lunch in Alta Plaza Park, sitting on a bench on one of the paths. A group of dogs, accompanied by a walker, approached. As my daughter is nervous around dogs, and several of them were very interested in our lunches, I asked the walker to control them. Her response was basically that I was in a dog run area (it sure looked like a public path to me), and if I didn't like dogs, I and my daughter had better move somewhere else. As she delivered this ultimatum, she moved in closer, bringing the rest of the dogs closer, and was shortly joined by another walker and his set of dogs. After an extended argument, they finally withdrew. Our quiet lunch in the park was, of course, ruined.

My immediate gut response was that dogs should not be allowed off-leash except in fenced-in areas in the city. If someone had asked me to vote for such a proposition right then, I certainly would have.

Having had some time to cool down since, and reflecting on lots of previous experience with off-leash dogs in Upper Douglass Park, where I take tai chi lessons each week, I have a somewhat different view: the dog walkers (not the dogs) should not be allowed off-leash in the city.

Okay, okay. Even that is too strong. However, what I have observed over nearly two years in Douglass Park is that 99 percent of dog owners and 90 percent of dog walkers are just great: they're aware of other people in the park, and if their dogs get too zealous, they say sorry and get them under control. (Though

some do seem to think that saying "he's friendly" is somehow enough to calm a frightened child.) But a few dog walkers, like the ones my daughter and I encountered, seem actively belligerent. When asked to control the dogs under their care, they take it not as a reasonable request, but as a personal insult and invitation to confrontation. These are often the same walkers that have eight or nine dogs, rather than the legal six.

I don't know what the right answer is here. I have friends with dogs, and I like dogs myself; I don't want to force them to be on-leash all the time. I believe the current moves in that direction may be driven by those few bad walkers (owners or not) that I've encountered from time to time. These few are ruining it for everyone else, dogs and people alike.

Maybe more stringent licensing of professional dog walkers is the answer. I certainly would have liked to ask for a license number and then filed a complaint after today's lunch. Unfortunately, one bad confrontation packs far more emotion than a hundred pleasant ones.

Harry Chesley
Via e-mail

Leashes a Must on 24th Street

Editor:

While there's been a bit of a tussle over whether canine residents of Noe Valley should be allowed to run free in our local parks, there should be no disagreement that they *must* be on leashes on 24th Street and in other pedestrian sidewalk areas. A surprisingly high number of large dogs appear to live here, and at least half the time I see them wandering by themselves, with their masters close and not so close by.

This is illegal and, especially to those of us with small children, unnerving. We don't know the demeanor of these dogs! We can't tell by looking whether a dog is friendly or fierce. If the dog bounds up to my child in his stroller, it scares him. How does the dog react? Is it startled? Does it shy away? Does it get angry and bite? How am I supposed to know?

Bottom line: Dog owners, keep your dogs on their leashes, and keep a tight rein on them. After what happened last year in Pacific Heights, you should know better.

Mike Kirschner
Noe Street



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

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www.noevalleyvoice.com

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The *Voice* welcomes your letters, photos, and manuscripts, particularly on topics relating to Noe Valley. All items should include your name, address, and phone number, and may be edited for brevity or clarity. (Unsigned manuscripts will not be considered for publication.) Unsolicited contributions will be returned only if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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Holiday Festivities

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4040 24th Street. Elves will be on hand to pass out free candy canes and apple cider.

Trim a Tree

For those in search of the perfect Christmas tree, no organization will be selling trees on the James Lick Middle School grounds this year, alas. However, Delancey Street Foundation will have lots set up in the Castro, at 2299 Market Street at Noe (861-2150), and in Glen Park at 2815 Diamond Street (586-8721). Delancey Street is a leading self-help residential education center for former substance abusers and ex-convicts.

Some extravagant tree trimming and dazzling decorating to check out each year is at Hollyrock—Donnie Tinsley's hillside home on 28th Street between Castro and Diamond—and in front of the charming Victorian belonging to Tom Taylor and Jerry Goldstein on 21st Street between Sanchez and Church. Walk to these visual feasts if you can, because as Christmas draws near, cars are often bumper-to-bumper as people gawk at giant presents, ribbons, ornaments, stuffed animals, and glittering lights.

Revel in the Entertainment

Once you've got your fill of decorations, you might want to hear some holiday music. The Priests Choir of the Archdiocese of San Francisco, a troupe of 15 priests from parishes throughout the Archdiocese, will perform at St. Paul's Church, at Church and Valley streets, on Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m. The 70-minute program will include 12 Christmas songs and six Advent songs. Some are old favorites, some are prayers for peace, and some will invite audience participation. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted.

Then on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 5:30 p.m., in the upstairs sanctuary of the Noe Valley Ministry, a Nativity pageant will unfold. Entitled "The Baby Born in Bethlehem," the pageant was written by Ministry member and *Voice* contributor Betsy Bannerman. "It's a short, four-scene play about the birth of Jesus," says Bannerman. "The narrative structure comes right out of Matthew and Luke, but it is set in the present day, with hints linking the location to San Francisco, New York, and

even Bethlehem itself."

Bannerman also directs. "I had a lot of fun writing the play and am enjoying the process of directing it—a first for me. I hope that people will appreciate the intimacy and spontaneity of the production and will overlook some of the rough edges," she adds. Be prepared for a BART scene, three wise guys instead of wise men, and shepherds with cell phones. Following the pageant will be a lasagna-and-salad dinner downstairs. The event is free.

Also at the Ministry, on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 8:15 p.m., the Noe Valley Music Series presents a Celtic Solstice/Celtic Peace Concert. The program features Irish dancers, song, and a variety of musicians, including members of the Aniar band, with Kyle Thayer on vocals and guitar, Kevin Bernhagen on fiddle, and Todd Denman on uilleann pipes. The show will include other musicians from the Bay Area Celtic community as well. Tickets are \$13 in advance and \$15 at the door (\$11 for children under 12 and seniors over 65, available only at the door). Advance tickets are available at Streetlight Records at 3979 24th Street. For more information, call 454-5238 or visit www.noevalleymusicseries.com.

Donations, Donations

Until Christmas Day, Zephyr Real Estate will have three collection barrels in its office on 24th Street. "Two barrels are for toys, and one is for food. We're collecting toys for Toys 4 Tots and for the Child Abuse Prevention Council. The food barrel is for the San Francisco Food Bank," says sales manager Randall Kostiuk. "We've had great success with these in the past. People have bought whole sacks of groceries at Bell Market and then dropped them off here."

Toys should be new and unwrapped, and food should be non-perishable. Gifts that are popular with young ones are makeup kits, board games, dolls (especially Barbies), basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, Tonka trucks, bath items for pre-teen and teenage girls, and for teenagers, gift certificates to music stores, movie theaters, department stores, and bookstores.

Other places to drop off new, unwrapped toys are at our local Bank of America branch, at Small Frys children's clothing store at 4066 24th Street, or at the Friends of Noe Valley Holiday Party on Thursday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m., at Latvian

Hall, 425 Hoffman Avenue. All three are collecting toys to give to children at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's annual Women and Family Holiday Party.

Vicksburg Street residents Carl and Andrea Alban Gosline, along with their homespun group Circle of Peace, are also collecting gifts, food, and clothes for needy families this year. "What's most needed are things appropriate for teens, like movie tickets and gift certificates, and new toys, shoes, jackets, cans of tuna or meat-based soups, jars of peanut butter, protein bars, blankets, and supermarket gift certificates," says Andrea. If you would like to participate, call 824-6511 by Dec. 8. (The deliveries to various charities will be made on Dec. 9.)

Through Jan. 6, at a temporary station in Stonestown Galleria, you can help keep people warm this winter by donating new or gently used coats to children and adults in need. This is thanks to the efforts of the Girl Scouts of the Bay Area and One Warm Coat, a community service organization. They have joined forces to collect coats and distribute them free of charge. For more information, call 564-8848.

Calling All Wrappers and Stackers

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation needs volunteers to help sort, wrap, and tag the gifts they collect for their party, which will be held Dec. 19 from 6 to 8 p.m. "This is for women, children, and their families who are impacted by HIV," says volunteer recruiter Cal Callahan. The volunteer shifts are two Saturdays, Dec. 7 and 14, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Tuesday, Dec. 17, from 6 to 9 p.m. Helping hands will be needed at the party as well. For details call Callahan at 487-8081.

You can also help the San Francisco Food Bank pick up, sort, stack, and deliver food this season. The Food Bank is the largest distributor of food to nonprofit agencies in San Francisco, and it aims to distribute 9,000 food boxes to needy families by the end of December.

Fair Oaks Street residents Kevin, Barbara, and 11-year-old Monica Brickley have been volunteering at the Food Bank

two evenings a month for two years. The decision to make community service an important part of their lives came about when Monica was 4 years old and asked her parents about a homeless man she'd noticed on the street. "It doesn't take a lot of effort [to volunteer]," says Barbara. "Once you get involved and understand the impact of your small contribution, it's a 'pebble in the pond' ripple effect."

Volunteers are most needed during the daytime, Monday through Friday, but evening and weekend shifts are also available. To sign up at the Food Bank, call Lisa Start at 282-1900.

From our house
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Illustration by Karol Barske

Have a Very Merry
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The Noe Valley Voice

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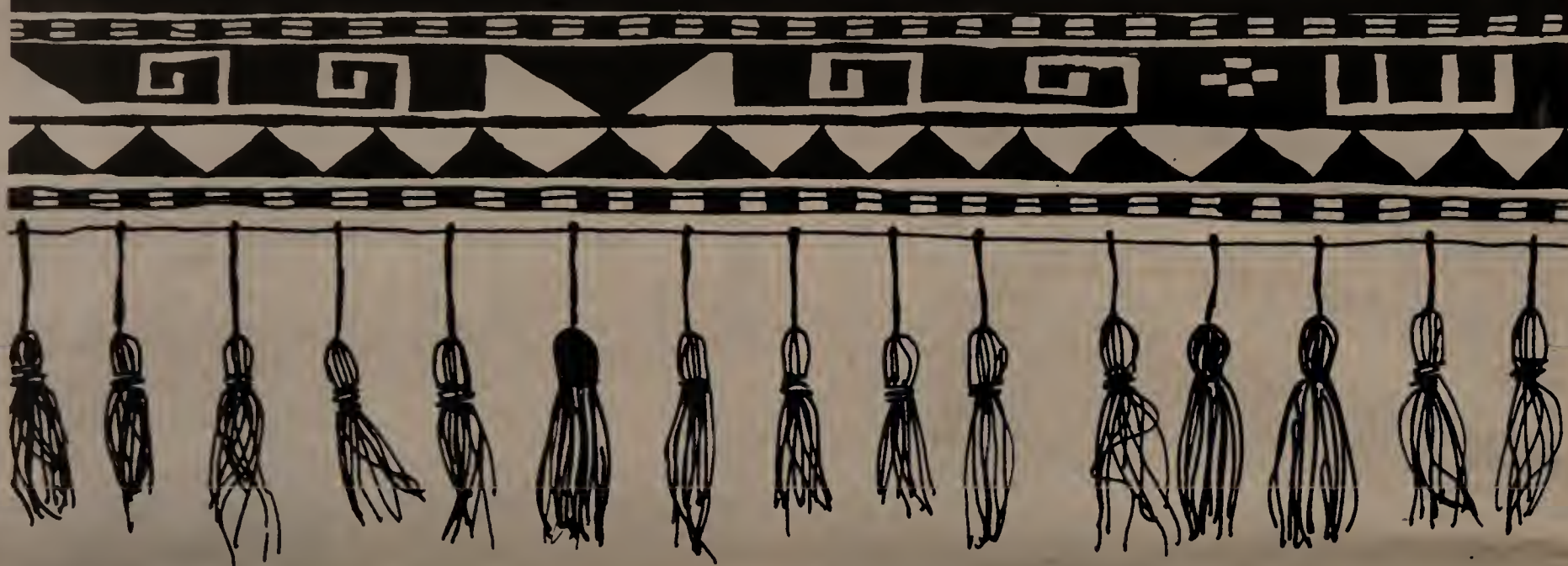
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Designing Women

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Herter and her associate editor, 33-year-old Debbie Berne. Berne designed the layout for *What Every Woman Should Have* and researched the mostly vintage photos that are included in the book's 72 pages.

Three close-to-home sources provided the bulk of Berne's foundation. Sifting through hundreds of "found photographs" from the collection of Bernal Heights friend Julie Glantz, Berne culled those she thought would go best with the text of the book, a list of the 45 essentials a woman must have (and know) to lead a fulfilling life. She then ventured down to Herter's basement and pored through boxes of Herter's family photos dating back to her great-grandparents' time. The third source was Berne's boyfriend, who also has a collection of photos.

According to Herter and Berne, found photographs are usually snapshots, such as family photographs, not originally taken for artistic purposes. Artists or book designers later "repurpose" or reuse the photos in a different context.

"When I was looking through Caroline's photos, I didn't know anything about them," Berne says. "Found photography gives you the opportunity to look at photos with a very different eye. They have a certain freshness and a lack of pretension, artistically speaking."

Technically, the copyright of found photos belongs to the photographer, but in the case of photos one finds, say, at flea markets, it's almost impossible to track down that person. As for Herter's inherited photos, nearly all the photographers are no longer living.

The studio faced a similar issue with the text of the book, which is a chain e-mail that Herter (and many other Internet users) received two or three years ago.



Working out of Herter's home studio, Caroline Herter (left) and Debbie Berne have created a humorous gift book out of text they first encountered as a chain letter on the Internet.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

son or built over time by many contributors.

In any case, Herter let the project simmer as she tried to figure out how to add a visual component that would not be schmaltzy, or as she puts it, "without a high gag factor."

Herter herself does not normally buy or give books like *What Every Woman Should Have*, but she likes this one's advice. Among the things the book counsels women to have are a set of screwdrivers, a cordless drill, and a black lace bra. For Christmas, Herter plans to give her 16-year-old niece the book, along with these three items (if her niece's mom approves the last item). "And we figured out that we could find all those things right on 24th Street!" Herter laughs.

According to the book, women also should have "one friend who always makes you laugh...and one who lets you cry"; "a purse, a suitcase, and an umbrella you're not ashamed to be seen carrying"; and "a good piece of furniture not previously owned by anyone else in your family."

What Every Woman Should Have was published by Berkeley's Ten Speed Press, which also distributes the book. Herter Studio has worked with Ten Speed in the past on other projects.

She and Berne are now working on a follow-up book, "What Every Man Should Be." They are in the process of collecting e-mail responses from friends, as well as an assortment of "guy photos."

Herter grew up in New York and attended college in Colorado. After graduating with a degree in philosophy, she was "completely unqualified to work," but she got a job with Denver's famed independent bookstore the Tattered Cover. In fact, she was the fourth person hired there.

"Someone suggested I go into book publishing because it was a great place for dilettantes," she says with a wry smile, "which I certainly was."

At the Tattered Cover, she was the book buyer. Later, she worked for Harper & Row and as a marketing manager at Simon & Schuster in New York. Eventually, she created a position at Simon & Schuster, buying illustrated books.

Eleven years ago, she landed a job with Chronicle Books in San Francisco, and moved out here as the editorial director and then publishing director. She was at Chronicle about seven years, and in that time created a division that makes ancillary gift products, such as note cards, from Chronicle's published books. "A lot of what I do [now] has been influenced by what I did at Chronicle," Herter says.

After 25 years of holding a day job, she decided it was time to embrace her entrepreneurial spirit and strike out on her own. In 1998, she left Chronicle Books and started Herter Studio. In the first two years, the company mostly did books for Chronicle.

These days, the company does a variety of things, from agenting projects to consulting (clients include 4-H, National Geographic, Heidi Fleiss, and Jeff Bridges) to packaging books, as in the case of *What Every Woman Should Have*.

Packaging books means that Herter Studio contracts with illustrators, writers, and designers, and sometimes takes on the production of the book for publishing houses. One of Herter's favorites is a book called *Mavericks: The Story of Big Wave Surfing* (Chronicle Books 2000), about the monster waves that tempt surfers to risk their lives.

Another book, for which she worked as a volunteer consultant, is called *It's About Time!* and was created by GirlSource, a nonprofit in the Mission founded by former Noe Valley resident Lynn Gordon. The goal of the book is to give young women advice on a variety of subjects, from relationships to preparing for college. (For more information, go to www.girlsource.org or call 252-8800.)

Since so much work is involved and because many projects are done "on spec"—before a publisher has agreed to accept them—Herter is very careful about the projects she takes on. For her to get involved, a project must meet two criteria: it must be something she likes, and it must be something she thinks will sell.

Herter worked alone for the first year, and found the success of her company a

Every woman should know...

how to kiss a man in a way that communicates perfectly what you would and wouldn't like to happen next

how to ask for what you want in a way that makes it most likely you'll get it

how to have a good time at a party you'd never choose to attend

that you can't change the width of your hips, the length of your calves, or the nature of your parents...

From *What Every Woman Should Have*, by Caroline Herter Studio (author as yet unknown)

tad overwhelming ("I was drowning"). Berne, who is originally from Michigan and spent time in Manhattan working at the Pace Gallery, worked at the Fraenkel Gallery downtown for five years. She began working part-time with Herter about three years ago, but has been working fulltime since this July. Berne loves the job because of its diversity.

"I get to do editorial [work] and design, which I never even knew I wanted to do. I get to do photo research and other kinds of research. It's really challenging, and I've learned so much. I kind of feel like we're just beginning," Berne says.

A perk of working independently is that the two women can take a little time off if they need to. In fact, just the other day, needing some rejuvenation, they headed down to 24th Street for facials. Obviously, they pay serious attention to the words of wisdom offered by *What Every Woman Should Have*. The book advocates that all women have "a skin care regime, an exercise routine, and a plan for dealing with those few facets of life that don't get better." □

For more information about Herter Studio, call 282-8143 or check out the studio's web site: www.herterstudio.com.



"Found" photographs, from family albums, flea markets, and other sources, help illustrate *What Every Woman Should Have*.

"Ninety-nine percent of those e-mails I dump because I think they're really stupid," Herter says, laughing. "But this one I thought was actually very true, and I sort of held my breath and sent it on to a few people. At the same time, I registered that it would make a wonderful little book."

Herter has not yet been able to find the writer, even though she conducted an exhaustive legal search. She did find the e-mail text on several web sites besides hers, along with people who were also looking for the author. She's still not sure whether the e-mail was written by one per-

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LETTERS 37¢



Reader Joseph Bruno sent us this 1930s photo of neighbors inspecting a new building at the corner of Noe and Day streets. Note the sparsely populated Bernal Heights in the distance.

A Different World

Editor:

I am sending you a photo (*see above*) taken during the 1930s on the corner of Noe and Day streets, looking east on Day towards Bernal Heights. Notice a couple of things. There are still buildings where the Upper Noe Park now is on Sanchez Street, and note the lack of homes on Bernal Heights. It also appears that the house on the corner of Noe and Day was under construction at the time.

I grew up in Noe Valley during the 1950s and '60s and have many wonderful memories of the area. It sometimes saddens me to see so many changes, such as the Star Bakery closing and Reilly's mortuary being replaced by condos.

I remember things like going to the "Egg Lady" on 29th Street next door to St. Paul's High School and buying fresh eggs for my mom. I remember when St. Paul's used to close down 29th Street for its festivals. We kids would stay outside all weekend enjoying the rides put up in the middle of the street. I also have fond memories of Lam's Market at 29th and Noe, Tomasoni's Variety Store on 29th Street, and T&M Variety on Church, all of which are gone. It was a different time and a different world.

I now live in a small town outside of Sacramento but think about Noe Valley often and a way of life that is now a wonderful memory. Your paper brings back a lot of good memories, and I enjoy reading it every month. Keep up the great work.

Joseph Bruno
Granite Bay, Calif.

Plagued by Mosquitoes

Editor:

As residents of Noe Valley for the better part of a decade, my partner and I have been plagued, on a nearly constant basis, by the presence of mosquitoes. I had always thought that these nasty critters were, by and large, summer invaders, but for some reason this particular strain seems impervious to the seasons and goes

about its bloodsucking business unaffected by season or temperature.

I have called the city and made inquiries that resulted in the examination of the nearest sewers and drains, but this has not cured or even curbed the problem. I have also made the rounds of several of my neighbors to ascertain whether they have ponds or standing water that might contribute to or be totally responsible for the problem, but so far this also has failed to produce results.

While this may seem a minor dilemma, the fact is that being bitten so often during the night tends to interfere with much needed shuteye (we have to rise for work at 5 a.m.) and has therefore been quite frustrating for us (wearing pith helmets and mosquito netting to bed is about the only recourse we have not tried).

Now with the specter of the West Nile virus on the horizon—even given some media exaggeration regarding its potential dangers—I am wondering if any other local residents have experienced similar problems with mosquitoes or have suggestions for solutions. Thank you.

B. Dettman
30th Street

2003

LETTERS

THE VOICE welcomes your letters to the editor. Write the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Or send e-mail to editor@noevalleyvoice.com. Please include your name, address, and phone number. (Anonymous letters will not be considered for publication.) You may also send us mail via our web site: www.noevalleyvoice.com. Letters may be edited for brevity or clarity.

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Panhandlers' Views On 'Care Not Cash'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ernment assistance. I'll get \$197.50 every two weeks. A homeless hotel room costs about \$40 a night," he says. With that money, and the panhandling he does in Noe Valley, he can probably make his income stretch till the end of the month, he says.

But he is worried about what will happen when the cuts go into effect this summer. "I'm just hoping with the voucher program, there are enough hotels willing to take those things."

He also thinks Prop. N shows a rise in paternalistic attitudes toward the homeless. "Some people here come by and say, 'I'll give you food because I don't know what you'll really do with my money.' The city is saying the same thing with Prop. N."

Crime May Go Up

Frankie, another *Street Sheet* seller, often hangs out in front of the Real Food Company on 24th Street. He too is homeless, and is currently sleeping in a shelter at night. At 38, he says he has been panhandling on 24th Street off and on for 10 years. If he's lucky, he can make \$45 dollars in a five-hour shift. "I'd say about 60 percent of the people here are nice," he says. "Only about 40 percent come at you in ways like 'Get a job' and all that."

As for Prop. N, "it's not going to really affect me," he says. "I know how to survive, and I only do this to get a few dollars for food when I'm between jobs."

Still, he is afraid other, more desperate homeless people might be driven to commit crimes. "I mean, hey, this is a tourist city," he says. "Other homeless are going to see those folks with the expensive cameras walking around like always. Maybe now they'll go ahead and take that

camera — you know, for the money."

Eddie, who often trades off with Anthony in front of Walgreen's, recently moved into housing in the Tenderloin, taking himself off government assistance. But he still sells the *Street Sheet* on 24th Street, to make rent and food money. "I don't see the point of just standing there with a cup in my hand," he remarks.

Eddie says he's happy with his new place in the Tenderloin and the big step away from depending on the government. "I'm glad I don't have to worry about Prop. N or anything like that anymore."

Even if he did, though, he would avoid staying in the city's homeless shelters. "Shelters are just bad," he says. "I don't recommend them at all." He points to his feet and then pats the back of his head. "You have to sleep with your head on your shoes, because you know they'll get taken from you."

'Government Too Cheap'

Alfreda, 39, has been panhandling on 24th Street for about eight years. She says she takes care of 10 children and sometimes brings one or two of her kids with her when she comes to Noe Valley. On this afternoon, she is alone sitting on a crate in front of Real Food Company.

"I used to be on Valencia Street and Potrero Hill," she notes, "but I like it here because people love my kids. Sometimes they'll buy me food, too."

Because she has children, Alfreda receives Social Security benefits instead of the type of government assistance that will be cut by Prop. N.

However, she shares the others' somewhat cynical view of Care Not Cash. "I just think it's because the government is too cheap."

She also believes Prop. N's stinginess with cash could backfire and make people turn to drug-dealing. "Think about it: All of a sudden they've got no money, but



Eddie says he found a place to live in the Tenderloin recently, so he won't have to rely on the kind of government assistance that will be impacted by Prop. N. Photo by Heidi Anderson

they can get a room. They're going to use the privacy of those hotel rooms to deal more drugs to get the money they need."

She shakes her head and sighs. "I'm so glad I'm on Social Security."

A Newsom Campaign Tactic

Another 24th Street regular is Albert Mioduszewski, a 57-year-old Vietnam veteran. Mioduszewski often sells *Street Sheets* while sitting on a bench in front of Hot Headz hair salon. "This street reminds me of San Francisco when I moved here in '59 with my parents," he says. "The people all know each other, and the buildings are nice."

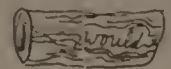
Mioduszewski is not homeless, but he has given Prop. N a lot of thought. "Prop. N? I think Newsom just did a good campaign for future mayor," he says.

He also doubts whether the "care" part

of Care Not Cash will actually be implemented. "I mean, I could sit here and crank out ideas, too. But making them happen...well?"

Mioduszewski says he receives \$796 a month in veteran's benefits. "I sell *Street Sheets* to supplement that. I obviously need to." And he's grateful to have a place to live right now. But it still bothers him that the city doesn't put more energy into creating shelters for the homeless.

"There are so many empty warehouses, even that armory on 14th and Mission. That could house 300 people or so. Why not do something about that?"



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Brian Cheu—at the Center of the LGBT Community

By Erin O'Briant

You must have seen it by now. It's that huge blue Victorian on Market Street at the corner of Octavia, adjoined on one side by a modern glass building filled with multicolored lights. But you might not have known that San Francisco's new Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community Center is headed up by Noe Valley resident Brian Cheu.

Cheu, who's lived on 24th Street between Sanchez and Church for 10 years, stepped up to his new position last May after serving for four years as executive director of the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC) in the Castro. "I thought a long time about whether I wanted to apply for this position because I was really happy at LYRIC," he says. "But this was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

His first six months as executive director of the new center have been positive, Cheu says, but not always easy. "Getting any new nonprofit off the ground is challenging," he notes.

And what Cheu delicately refers to as "the economics of the times" makes it even tougher. "People don't have as much to give as they used to."

Still, he says, a broad constituency has made economic survival through the 2002 recession easier for the center than it has been for many Bay Area nonprofits.

Cheu, 39, won't even estimate how many hours he works, but says his week is certainly full. He meets with visitors to the building, supervises a staff of about 20, and works with the center's board of directors. He's also partnering with other community-based organizations to see how the center can support their work.

There is much to be done. The modern half of the building was the first-ever LGBT community center built from the ground up—and the finishing touches are not yet complete. At the top of Cheu's to-do list is getting the physical details of the building wrapped up. Second is outreach. "There are still a lot of people who've heard about the center but who haven't actually come inside, so we'd like to have



Brian Cheu, who lives on 24th Street, goes from one thriving metropolis to another each working day. He is the busy director of the city's new Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center on Market Street.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

them come get a taste of what's going on here," Cheu explains. "We know we can't do everything for everybody, but we'd like to have as diverse an offering as possible."

The four-story building offers a mix of meeting rooms, open spaces, and "hang-out" areas. The modern side has a flexible floor plan, so that an area that serves as a lobby by day doubles as an art gallery and party space at night. The center's offices house an enormous variety of organizations, from the Harvey Milk Institute, to the Black Coalition on AIDS, to the Bay Area American Indian Two Spirits. Together these groups support the needs of the city's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender population. No one knows exactly how many people that is, but Cheu says some estimates go as high as 25 percent in San Francisco.

As it turns out, the needs of the LGBT community aren't necessarily specific to queer folks. "The most common request is, 'I moved to the city and I can't find a job—can you help me find a job?' Or, 'I moved to the city and I can't afford any place to live—can you help me?'" Cheu

says. "Often if someone's new to the town who's from the community, even if they don't know what the resources are, they figure there's probably a community center." A job board provides some answers for employment-seekers, and Cheu says the organization may come up with more formal solutions to employment and housing questions in the future.

Cheu invites his neighbors in Noe Valley, gay, straight, or otherwise, to come check the center out and sign up to receive its calendar. There's a lot going on over the holidays, including a Queer Jitterbugs swing dance holiday party on Dec. 28 and a multimedia art exhibit.

"Long-term, we'd like to see the center become a one-stop-shopping kind of a place, where you can come in and find information and referrals for just about anything you can think of." □

For more information about the San Francisco LGBT Community Center, call 415-865-5555 or visit www.sfgaycenter.org.

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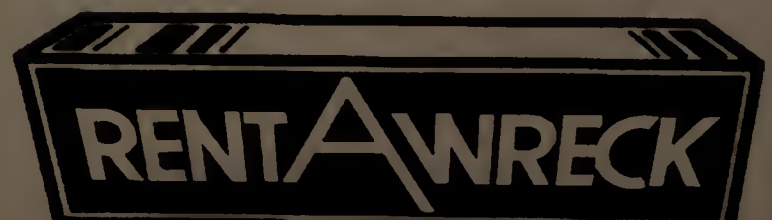
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– Vicki Rosen, President, Upper Noe Neighbors

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The Cost of Living in Noe

Price War Ceasefire

By Corrie M. Anders

Don't look for Noe Valley home prices to plummet next year. (The California Association of Realtors predicts that a rebound in the technology sector in 2003 will perk up the Bay Area economy.) But there may be fewer buyers in the hunt, and a continuing lull in the local bidding wars.

According to the latest data supplied by Zephyr Real Estate, buyers purchased a total of nine single-family homes in Noe Valley during October. And on average, they paid just 1 percent over the initial asking price—not the extra 10 and 12 percent that buyers often forked over in recent months. Four condominiums exchanged hands during October—and buyers merely met the original price tag.

"The Noe Valley market has been pretty good"—thanks to the lowest mortgage interest rates in 30 years, said Randall Kostick, manager of Zephyr's 24th Street office.

"But not everything is selling," he said. "Some people are putting prices on homes that are a bit high," and savvy

shoppers are passing them by.

There is one housing niche that continued to attract homebuyer attention in October: two- and three-unit flats that offer a less expensive alternative to detached homes and condos. Four were sold in October, and buyers paid on average 6 percent more than sellers originally sought.

For example, a two-unit building in the 800 block of Douglass Street carried a price tag of \$925,000. But the successful buyers offered an even \$1 million, an 8 percent premium. Then there was the three-unit building with two vacant flats, in the 3700 block of 24th Street, which sold for \$1,395,000. "These buildings of-tentimes are very valuable because rent control still allows people to make them into homes," said Kostick. When two or three families share the building, that also lowers the individual purchase price.

The most expensive property sold in October was a four-bedroom, four-bath home in the 300 block of Day Street. Buyers paid \$1,612,500.

The highest-priced condo, with two bedrooms and two baths, was located in the 4500 block of 25th Street. Buyers paid \$760,000 for the newly constructed condominium. □

Noe Valley Home Sales*

Total Sales		Low Price (\$)	High Price (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Avg. Days on Market	Sale Price As % of List Price
Single-family homes						
Oct. 02	9	\$545,000	\$1,612,500	\$896,056	33	101%
Sept. 02	5	\$690,000	\$2,105,000	\$1,075,400	37	97%
Oct. 01	6	\$655,000	\$1,260,000	\$886,500	33	99%
Condominiums						
Oct. 02	4	\$575,000	\$760,000	\$630,000	35	100%
Sept. 02	10	\$440,000	\$1,000,000	\$697,800	32	103%
Oct. 01	3	\$399,000	\$938,000	\$689,000	26	97%
2 to 4 unit buildings						
Oct. 02	4	\$850,000	\$1,395,000	\$1,056,250	33	106%
Sept. 02	5	\$685,000	\$1,140,000	\$888,000	30	104%
Oct. 01	5	\$695,000	\$1,200,000	\$989,000	26	91%
5+ unit buildings						
Oct. 02	0	—	—	—	—	—
Sept. 02	0	—	—	—	—	—
Oct. 01	1	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000	135	94%

*Information provided to the Noe Valley Voice courtesy of Zephyr Real Estate (www.zephyr-re.com) and based on all Noe Valley home sales (escrow closings) recorded during month. "Noe Valley" in this survey is defined as the area bordered by Grand View, 22nd, Guerrero, and 30th streets. NV 12/02

Noe Valley Rents*

Apartment Size	Average Rents (July - Sept. 2002)	Average Rents a Year Ago (July - Sept. 2001)	% Increase (+) or Decrease (-)
Studio	\$ 1,079 / mo.	\$ 1,220 / mo.	-11.6%
1 bedroom	1,560 / mo.	1,730 / mo.	-9.8%
2 bedrooms	2,261 / mo.	2,415 / mo.	-6.4%
3 or more bedrooms	2,744 / mo.	3,118 / mo.	-12.0%

*Source: Rent Tech, Inc. (www.renttech.com). NV 12/02

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Holiday Concerts at CMC

Las Posadas - Friday December 13, 8pm (free)

In Mexico, the Christmas holiday season is an important one with strong traditions. The posada party is a joyous and colorful celebration, observed every evening between December 16th and 24th. It commemorates Mary and Joseph's cold and arduous journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of "posada," which is the Spanish word for shelter. The posada has evolved over time into a religious, multi-cultural and social celebration - a festive homage to the journey. Songs in Spanish and English

Holiday Party for children - Sunday December 15, 11:30am to 1:00pm (free)

Holiday Party for children and a visit from Santa Claus with treats. The Ina Chalis Opera Ensemble presents Amahl and the Night Visitors and the San Francisco Children's Chorus performs holiday carols.

Beethoven's Ninth Symphony

CMC Orchestra conductor and music director Urs Leonhardt Steiner was inspired by a European tradition to bring Beethoven's orchestral masterpiece, the Ninth Symphony, with its spectacular choral finale, the Ode to Joy, to San Francisco audiences in two New Year's gala concerts. Admission: \$15

Tuesday December 31, 2002 9:30 pm
Mission Presbyterian Church
3261 23rd Street at Capp - San Francisco

Urs Leonhardt Steiner
conductor music director

Nathan Lofton
Songs for Children
Michael Kimbell
Rondino capriccioso
Ludwig van Beethoven
Symphony No. 9, in D minor, op. 125

Dorothy Stone Andrade, soprano
Karen Carle, mezzo soprano
John Davey-Hatcher, tenor
John Minagro, bass

Wednesday, January 1, 2003 4pm
Mission Dolores Basilica
16th Street at Dolores - San Francisco

Antonia Joy Wilson
guest conductor

Nathan Lofton
Songs for Children
Michael Kimbell
Rondino capriccioso
Ludwig van Beethoven
Symphony No. 9, in D minor, op. 125

Dorothy Stone Andrade, soprano
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POLICE BEAT

The following crime summaries were culled from incident reports filed at Mission and Ingleside police stations during October 2002.

Theft from Building: Between noon on Tuesday, Sept. 24, and noon on Monday, Oct. 7; 4200 block of 20th Street

After being out of town for two weeks, a resident of the 4200 block of 20th Street (near Diamond) returned to her apartment on Oct. 7 and discovered that jewelry valued at \$1,800 was missing from her bedroom dresser. The resident told police that she was in the process of moving out of her apartment and that while she was away, her landlord had shown the apartment to several prospective tenants. She also said she had locked the home before she left town and that the apartment was locked when she returned. Police found no sign of forced entry. The case has been assigned to the San Francisco Police Department's Burglary Division.

Residential Burglary: Between 1 and 1:45 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 1; 1800 block of Church Street

An 88-year-old Church Street resident was walking with the aid of a cane along 19th Street near Mission in the early afternoon of Monday, Sept. 30, when a man in his 20s approached him and offered to give the senior citizen a ride home in his car. When the senior refused, the young man asked for his name and phone number, which the senior gave him.

Around 11 a.m. the next day, the young man called the senior and offered to bring him some donuts, and asked for his home address. The senior declined the donuts, but told the man his address. Two hours later, the young man, accompanied by a woman in her 20s, arrived at the senior's home with an apple pie. The senior let them inside, and the female asked the senior if he had any family photos. The senior pulled out a photo album, sat down on the couch with the couple, and began showing them his photos.

After looking at a few photos, the woman got up to use the bathroom. The young man continued to sit on the couch with the senior while the woman used the bathroom. The senior also saw her go into his

bedroom. When the woman came back to the couch, her companion got up and told the senior they had to leave and that they would return the next day to check on him.

After the couple left, the senior went into his bedroom and discovered that \$6,800 he kept in an envelope in his dresser drawer was missing. The man and woman did not return the next day as they had promised. The case has been assigned to SFPD's Burglary Division.

Residential Burglary: Between 8 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 3, and 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5; 300 block of Jersey Street

The resident of a flat in the 300 block of Jersey Street (near Noe) returned home at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5, to find the window screen ajar in her bathroom, a door to her backyard unlocked, and a Macintosh laptop computer missing from a desk in her living room. She told police that she had secured her backyard door before leaving her home that morning, and that she had left her bathroom window open but that the screen was in place. She also told police that clothing inside her dresser had been moved, but that no items were missing. The last time she remembered seeing her laptop was at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 3.

Police determined that an unknown suspect entered the flat through the bathroom window and left through the backyard door. Due to lack of physical evidence and because the resident had moved items before the police arrived, Crime Scene Investigations was not contacted. The case has been assigned to SFPD's Burglary Division.

Residential Burglary: Between 8:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 4; 4300 block of 20th Street

A resident of the 4300 block of 20th Street (near Diamond) locked his apartment and left for work at 8:15 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 4. When he returned at 6:45 p.m., he noticed that the screen to his bedroom window was placed against the wall near his front door. He then went inside his apartment and discovered that his bedroom window had been opened, several items in his home had been moved, and his Compaq laptop computer was missing. The resident called police, who advised him not to touch anything until they arrived. Police also called Crime Scene Investigations to check the apartment for fingerprints. The case has been assigned to SFPD's Burglary Division.

Vandalism to Vehicle: Between 11:10 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 11, and 7:15 a.m.

and Panetti's Gifts, both on 24th Street. The charges in those two cases were reduced from felony counts to misdemeanors. The remaining seven felony charges were dropped, along with three misdemeanor charges related to possession of vandalism tools.

By law, ROC could have served a jail sentence of up to 5½ years for his crimes, and Officer Christopher Putz of the San Francisco Police Department's Graffiti Abatement Program said he had hoped for a stricter sentence than the eight-month stay at Log Cabin Ranch.

"I'm very disappointed with the outcome," he said. "Given the seriousness of the charges this sentence does not send a loud and clear message that we will not tolerate repeat graffiti offenders. ROC will turn 18 soon, though, so when he gets out, hopefully he'll get a job and start making restitution."

Meanwhile, ROC remains in custody in the juvenile jail facility at the Youth Guidance Center in San Francisco, pending his transfer to Log Cabin Ranch. □

—Kathy Dalle-Molle

on Saturday, Oct. 12; 1700 block of Sanchez Street

A little after 11 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 11, the resident of a home in the 1700 block of Sanchez Street (near Randall) heard a loud bang outside his house, but "did not think much of it" at the time. At 7:15 a.m. the next day, he discovered that the rear window of his red Ford station wagon, which was parked in the street in front of his home, had been shattered. Just behind the car, he found an expended bullet. When police arrived on the scene, they recovered the bullet and booked it as evidence at Ingleside Station. The case has been assigned to SFPD's Gang Task Force.

Theft and Stripping of Vehicle: Between 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 18, and 10:10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 19; Church and 27th streets

A 27th Street resident parked his green Acura hatchback on the northeast corner of 27th and Church streets at 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 18. When he returned to the corner a little after 10 a.m. the next day, he found his car propped up on a tire jack with both the front and rear right tires and wheels stolen.

Mental Health Detention: 5:45 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 24; 3900 and 4000 block of 24th Street

At 5:45 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 24, a Noe Valley resident was at an ATM machine, located on 24th Street near Noe, when a man ran toward him and began yelling about a key. The resident told the man he did not have a key, but the man continued yelling and began waving his arms. By the time a police officer arrived, the man was in front of a nearby coffee store. When the officer asked the man for identification, he refused. The man then walked into the coffee store, sat down at a table, and started yelling. Another officer was called to the scene, and asked the man several questions he was unable to answer, including what day of the week it was. The man continued to behave erratically. The officers determined that he was a danger to others and transported him to San Francisco General Hospital for observation.

Stroller Theft: Between 3 and 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 30; 4000 block of 25th Street

At 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 30, a resident of the 4000 block of 25th Street (near Church) returned to her home to find her child's Peg Perego stroller—along with its contents, which included a fleece jacket and pants and a few toys—missing from the bottom of the front steps of her home, where it had been left by a babysitter an hour and a half earlier.

Bench Theft: Between 5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 31, and 12:30 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 1; 1000 block of Sanchez Street

When an employee of a church/community building in the 1000 block of Sanchez Street near Elizabeth left the building at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 31, an antique cast-iron and wood bench was in its place in front of the building. Several hours later, a member of the church congregation passed by the building and noticed the bench was missing. When the employee came to work on Friday, Nov. 1, he also noticed that the bench, which has a pewter memorial plaque in its center, was missing. After speaking with the church member who first saw the bench was gone, the employee notified police. An officer searched the area, but did not find the bench.

The Voice thanks Mission Police Officer Lorraine Lombardo and Ingleside Officer Mike Smith for providing the incident reports for this month's Police Beat. The reports were summarized by Kathy Dalle-Molle.

Resident Shaken Up by Mugging on Jersey Street

By Kathy Dalle-Molle

A 30-year-old Jersey Street resident wants to alert Noe Valley residents to a robbery and mugging that occurred in November at the corner of Vicksburg and Jersey streets.

The resident, who did not want to be identified publicly, said he was walking alone toward his apartment in the 100 block of Jersey Street about 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 5, when two men accosted him and demanded money. They then put him in a headlock, rifled through his pants pockets, and fled with his wallet, containing \$30 and credit cards.

"This is the last neighborhood I thought something like this would happen in," said the resident, who was shaken up but not otherwise injured. "I've always envisioned Noe Valley as the ultimate place to live in San Francisco, and I really thought it was a safe neighborhood."

Noe Valley Beat Officer Lorraine Lombardo told the Voice that Noe Valley is indeed a "nice, relatively safe neighborhood. Muggings are not a huge problem," she said. "But they happen more than you want to hear—probably about two times a month. It's usually in the dark. It's usually when a person is alone, and a lot of times it's when the person is feeling at ease, like when he's just walking home after having dinner at a restaurant."

The resident said he believes he was targeted "because there was no one else on the street and I looked like I was burdened, carrying a shopping bag and a large travel bag."

He also said he felt the incident might not have happened if the area had been better lit. "There are no streetlights on the southwest corner of Jersey, and there are none on Vicksburg. In fact, all of my block has very spotty lighting." (He and his partner are currently contacting city officials to find out how to get more lights on the street.)

Luckily for him, the resident was carrying his cell phone at the time of the attack. He immediately called police, and a squad car arrived within five minutes. The officers searched the area without success. But about 10 minutes later, the resident was in front of his building when he spotted the two suspects driving by in a 1980s white Camaro with a black top.

"The car had its headlights off, which got my attention," he said, "and there is a streetlight in front of my apartment, so when they drove under the light, I saw it was the two men." He and a friend ran after the Camaro to try to get a license plate number, but "all I could get was that the letters R and X were on the plate."

The resident flagged down another squad car to chase after the suspects, but the police were unable to catch them. The resident immediately cancelled his credit cards, but said the robbers later attempted to use them in San Bruno and Daly City.

The victim said both suspects appeared to be in their late teens or early 20s. One man was Hispanic, about 5'8", of medium build, and wearing a white T-shirt and dark sweatpants. The other was African American, about 5'7", also of medium build, and wearing a dark jacket, dark pants, and a ski hat.

The case has been assigned to SFPD's Robbery Division. Anyone with information is asked to call 553-1201. □

Residents are invited to attend police-community meetings held monthly in the Mission and Ingleside police districts. The next Ingleside meeting will be Dec. 17, 7 p.m., at 1 Sgt. John Young Lane off San Jose Avenue (415-404-4000). The Mission Police District will not hold a December meeting; the next public meeting will be Jan. 28, 6 p.m., at Mission Station, 630 Valencia Street (415-558-5400).

'ROC' Sentenced to 8 Months in Youth Facility

"ROC," the 17-year-old graffiti vandal who etched his moniker on storefronts up and down 24th Street this summer, was sentenced on Nov. 5 to spend eight months at Log Cabin Ranch, a La Honda, Calif., rehabilitation facility for male juveniles. He also must pay restitution to the Noe Valley merchants whose storefronts he damaged in a June 19 tagging spree, and his juvenile record will not be sealed until he has paid them in full.

At a hearing on Oct. 22, ROC waived his right to a trial regarding 11 felony counts of vandalism using caustic chemicals filed against him by the San Francisco Police Department. In a plea bargain with the District Attorney's office, he admitted to two of those felony counts—one involving damage to a concourse window at the Glen Park BART Station in June 2001 and the other to an acid-etching incident at Noe Valley Bakery in June 2002.

ROC also admitted damaging two other Noe Valley storefronts this past June—the 24th Street Cheese Company

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This 'n' That

By Laura McHale Holland

Folks at Fairmount Elementary School are walking tall these days. Their very own **Lizbeth Sanchez** received a decree from the San Francisco Board of Supervisors proclaiming Oct. 28 Lizbeth Sanchez Day. An extraordinary outcome for a pregnant woman who was deported in July and spent 97 days exiled in Guatemala—a country where she no longer has any relatives—before she was reunited with her husband **Mayco Cardenas** and daughter **Kristyne**, a third-grader at the school.

"Fairmount is a pretty high-involvement school, and Lizbeth was volunteering a lot of time. When she was arrested in the summer, we were really shocked," says **Cindy Cake**, one of Sanchez's many supporters. "We're all mothers, and imagine being separated from your child—it's a pretty visceral reaction. So we were stunned that our government would do that, particularly given that her child and her husband are citizens. We felt she deserved more due process than that. So we went to bat for her."

How Sanchez came to be handcuffed and detained in front of her husband and daughter when she thought she was appearing at the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) for a routine interview concerning her application for legal residency is a long and complicated story. It began just over 10 years ago when she was 15 years old and she fled from Guatemala with her mother, father, brother, and sisters. Her father's life was being threatened for political reasons to such a degree that he couldn't even leave

their home to go to work. Once in the U.S., her parents applied for amnesty as refugees and were denied. They appealed the decision, but due to a clerical error, they were given a court date that was one week later than when they were actually supposed to appear. When they arrived in court, they were told their case was closed, and there was no way to reopen it.

Meanwhile, Sanchez fell in love with **Cardenas**, and that led to marriage and family. She began the process of obtaining legal resident status as **Cardenas**' wife. Communications from the INS led Sanchez to believe that her case was in order. But workers handling her case did not communicate with those in charge of her parents' case, in which Sanchez was a party, and confusion led to errors with drastic consequences.

"What especially incensed me," says **Andy Kuster**, another parent at Fairmount, "was that she was an immigrant who had taken steps to become an active member of her community. Being a young mother of a young child, she went and got extra parent leader training at the school district, helped in the classroom whenever she could, and juggled her work schedule and her need to provide for the family with her perceived need to be involved in her child's community. This is not the kind of person we should be kicking out over some scheduling error."

The Fairmount community decided to make a lot of waves on Sanchez's behalf. "It started with the first press conference at the Immigrant Legal Resource Center, which Fairmount families attended on July 26," recalls **Marcia Zorilla**, who became friends with Sanchez when their daughters were in kindergarten. "We created a fact sheet as well as signs in English and Spanish saying 'Return Lizbeth Sanchez to Her Family.' We made a petition to Nancy Pelosi and collected signatures from parents and staff. Families do-



Lizbeth Sanchez is glad to be back home with husband Mayco Cardenas and daughter Kristyne, after a three-month ordeal triggered by a clerical error at the INS.

nated money. We made a petition with signatures to the INS in Guatemala. We sent updates via a Fairmount e-mail newsletter. I think close to 100 families, if not more, helped. Some families went to all the press conferences; others only signed the petition. We were grateful for whatever families were able to do."

Sanchez is the most grateful of all. "Well, I can't believe it happened. When I was arrested in immigration I felt like a criminal, and then when I came back they received me like a hero. The INS acknowledged that they had an error in my file. Everybody, everybody, thank you very much for all the work in making my case. It was a hard job. I saw the papers they filled out, and they worked so hard. I feel great to have good friends like that."

When Sanchez's second child is born a few months from now, her friends at Fairmount will most likely throw her one big baby shower.

Lizbeth Sanchez isn't the only person who's thrilled to be here. New arrivals **Ezekiel Alicea** and **Lynda Cotteblanche** left their home in Miami this summer thinking they were going on a three-month, cross-country vacation. "We came up the Pacific Coast Highway and stopped in San Francisco. An hour later, we knew we wanted to die here; we love it," says Alicea.

Since the couple have two dogs, landing an apartment was a challenge. They searched for nine weeks, Alicea says. "We went to look at an apartment across the street from where we're living now. It wasn't exactly what we wanted, but the landlord said they'd take us. We were five minutes late for an appointment to sign a lease, and the landlord didn't wait. Then in the window of La Sirena Botanica we saw a 'For Rent' sign. We walked over, and Mary, the owner, greeted us like she knew us, and we signed a lease the same day. We live above the store, and we couldn't be happier. Mary takes care of

our dogs; she's adopted them as well as us. And we help her sometimes in the store if she needs somebody to cover."

Mary Zenzirci also introduced Alicea and Cotteblanche to **Tom Hamilton**, with whom they have started "Get Flat," a free monthly concert and group art show that is open to the public. The event takes place in their new home at 1511 Church Street.

"One night Tom was walking by the store and he saw a crystal ball that he wanted. It was around midnight, and Mary was working late that evening. They started talking, and then she came upstairs and woke us up and said, 'I don't care if you're sleeping, you have to come down and meet this guy.' And so we went downstairs and we all hit it off right away. The following night, we had Tom over for dinner, and he started to sing opera in our house—it was so beautiful and the acoustics were so great. A light bulb went off, and we decided we had to open up our space."

Alicea and Cotteblanche may be new to town, but they're not new to producing events. They started the East Coast "Get Flat" two years ago as a way to get different genres of music heard in Miami. Their first San Francisco event on Nov. 16 featured Hamilton, singing a range of musical styles from jazz to classical; visual artists **David Dexter Anderson**, **Emily K. Grieves**, **Gabriel Mott**, and **Erica Steiner**; and a spoken-word performance by **Jamey Austin**.

"The connection of art, music, and dance is what makes this type of event special," Alicea says. To get involved, as either as an artist or an audience member, call Alicea at 648-5560 or Hamilton at 307-2566.

We've gained Get Flat, but we've lost **Dave Monks**. President of the Noe Valley Democratic Club from 1996 to 2001 and president of Friends of Noe Valley for the past two years, Monks left town on Halloween to begin a new phase of his life. "I had a great time in San Francisco," he reports from his new home in Los Angeles. "I just felt like I needed some new frontiers for myself. In particular, I've had a longstanding interest in the entertainment business, and I'm hoping to get involved in that. I'm looking at production agency work."

Monks says he has brought his pedestrian and transit-friendly ways to L.A. "I live two blocks from a Metro station, and I'm planning to get involved in an alliance to promote an expanded light-rail system here," he says.

Others in our community are starting a new phase in their lives as well. After two years of preparation at their 29th Street novitiate house, five novices of the **Missionaries of Charity** (the **Mother Teresa** nuns we often see walking in pairs in their flowing white-and-blue robes), will be-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

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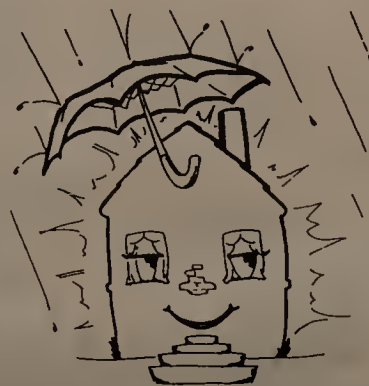
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This 'n' That

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

come professed sisters on Monday, Dec. 9. The ceremony at St. Paul's Church will begin at 4 p.m. and last about 90 minutes. It is open to the public.

"The sisters come to the holy mass in procession, and the novices sing in the choir. Then after the homily, the ceremony of taking vows takes place, and each sister has to pronounce the vows alone," says **Sister Thomas More**, one of four teachers at the novitiate.

Later in the day at a private ceremony, the newly professed sisters will find out which mission house in the Americas they are each being sent to. They have more than 40 houses in the United States and at least 60 throughout Latin America. Two of the novices hail from India, two from Mexico, and one from Argentina. "All the novices have enjoyed being here," says More. "I think it's opened their eyes to a different sort of poverty than maybe what they're used to in other cultures—the poverty of loneliness, not being wanted. That has helped them broaden their understanding and prepare them for wherever they go. They will have an open mind."

Someone who's had her mind blown just a little bit is **Janell Moon**, an author who has practiced hypnotherapy in Noe Valley for 18 years. Her latest book, *The Wise Earth Speaks to Your Spirit: 52 Ways to Find Your Soul Voice Through Journal Writing*, has been nominated for the best spiritual and compassionate-living book of 2002 by *Spirituality & Health* maga-



A book by Noe Valley author Janell Moon has been nominated for an award by *Spirituality & Health* magazine.

zine. Says Moon: "I was very pleased, because I'm a woman who started to publish in her mid-50s. To be nominated against books from the Dalai Lama and Thich Nhat Hanh, it's pretty remarkable that they even saw my book, let alone nominated it. That's part of my thinking, but the other part is that I believe in grandmother power and the wisdom of a woman who's lived her life in a kind-hearted way and has tried to contribute something using her imagination and creativity."

The book contains 52 of Moon's essays about nature with accompanying suggestions for journaling. "It is a reminder that the earth is here to offer us reflection, perspective, inspiration, and beauty," she says. The book should be on 24th Street at Cover to Cover and Phoenix Books.

A book that may be up for an award someday is a biography of **Jann Wenner**,

famed editor of *Rolling Stone* magazine. Twenty-eighth Street resident, founder of the Center for Investigative Reporting, author, visiting professor at Stanford, and father of six **David Weir** signed a contract last month with John Wiley & Sons to write the book. Weir says he was approached by an editor at Wiley, who saw a profile of Wenner he did for *Salon.com*. Coincidentally, Weir already had been talking with his agent about writing Wenner's biography.

"Jann is one of a kind," notes Weir. "He's interesting in the context of the rock 'n' roll and the political and cultural explosion that came out of the '60s. He's also interesting in that *Rolling Stone* started in San Francisco and spent its first 10 years here—building the brand, becoming nationally prominent—and then moved to New York. With the rise of the Internet and so many new-media entrepreneurs, such as the people who founded *Salon* and *Wired*, and having been involved in new-media companies myself and seeing the challenges of trying to build them, I appreciate how hard it's been for *Rolling Stone* to succeed over the last 40 years."

Duncan Street resident **Ted Weinstein** has met with success over the last year, his first one as a literary agent. He worked in publishing for about a decade doing marketing, business development, and licensing, and then took a year off to write a book. "It was a book on religion for kids," he says, "and in the course of getting an agent for my own book, the question kept coming up, 'What are you going to do next?' The agents said I had the same kind of great experience to do what they do, and some of my first clients came through referrals through other Bay Area agents. So now I get the best of both worlds. I get to spend my days talking with writers and editors, but I don't have to write a word myself, which for me is the perfect balance."

Weinstein also organizes a monthly happy hour for writers and friends. "to help give local authors a chance to meet their peers, meet editors and agents, and just get out of the house and be social at the end of a long day of solitary writing." For details visit www.twliterary.com.

Another neighbor with a good head for business is Church Street resident and Noe Valley native **Connie Walkershaw**. On Nov. 2, she opened her first store, Walkershaw Clothing at 629 Haight Street. She calls her designs "classic with

a twist." She is highly influenced by clothing from about 1910 through the 1940s. "I do swing jackets, a lot of dresses and shirts. And I have men's, women's, and children's stuff ranging in price from \$24 for a kids item to \$300 for the most fancy of overcoats."

Walkershaw is also a saxophonist in a band with her husband, **Jesse Walkershaw**, and the mother of 7-year-old daughter, **Carmen**. Other than a pattern-making class, she has no formal training in clothing design. "I got my start by restoring vintage clothing. I studied how things were constructed, and restored beaded dresses and Victorian wear. Then I worked for many designers and kind of figured 'I could do that,' so I put everything I knew all together and did it."

And one last bit of good news. Twelve-year-old **Alexander Agosta**, a seventh-grader at Adda Clevenger School, won the lead in the school's production of *Snicke*, which is a two-hour musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' third novel, *Nicholas Nickleby*. Alexander, who lives on 27th Street with his mom **Lisa Moresco**, dad **Gerry Agosta**, brother **Rio** and sister **Sophia**, has been attending the school for three years.

"Ever since I got to this school, I've been in these plays," Alexander says. "The whole school does them, and it's usually I'm watching everybody who plays the leads, and finally I get to play one for myself. It's harder than I imagined it would be. I hope I do well and enjoy myself and the performance succeeds."

Shows will be at Mercy High School on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. For more information call 824-2240.

That's all of This 'n' That for 2002. Help us bring in the new year with news about your smashing successes, inspiring innovations, charming babies and toddlers, academic honors, athletic achievements, engagements, weddings, professional awards, book publishing parties, art show openings, literary salons, and any other personal news worth sharing with your neighbors.

E-mail leads to thisthat@noevalleyvoice.com, mail them to the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114, or leave a phone message at 415-821-3324. □



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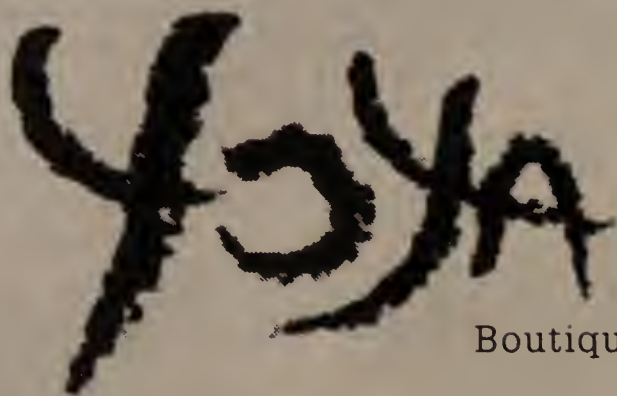
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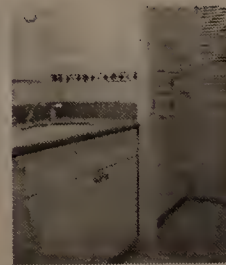
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City Gets Ready To Overhaul Upper Noe Park

By Erin O'Briant

Working heat, wider doors, and a seismic upgrade. Those are just a few of the improvements city park officials hope to make to the Upper Noe Recreation Center during the next three years. Local residents and city planners gathered in November to begin planning for the renovation, which is funded by a 2000 ballot measure providing renovation dollars for San Francisco parks.

At a Nov. 14 meeting at Fairmount School, Keith Kawamura, Recreation and Park Department project director, explained to Noe Valley residents what must be done to bring the recreation center up to code, and asked for community input on how the park, gym, and recreation center at Day and Sanchez streets might be improved. "We need to do a seismic upgrade and an accessibility upgrade [to bring the facilities up to current] code, so there are some givens," Kawamura said.

Fixing the center's heating system is another top priority, as is adding exits to the main auditorium. The roof and electrical panels most likely will need to be replaced, and the gym's bleachers need to be made accessible to disabled people.

Kawamura said he also is hoping to upgrade the lighting in the recreation center. The city plans to completely renovate the children's play area to bring it up to current standards, and to replace the temporary chain-link fence that borders the dog run and ball field.

Marybeth Wallace, a Noe Valley resident and vice chair of the city's Park, Recreation, and Open Space Committee, says she hopes to create the legacy of a

beautiful park for current and future San Franciscans. "What we saw the other night is what has to be done, meaning the things we have to do first. But [the city officials] seem to be listening, and I'm optimistic."

Other neighbors said at the meeting that they'd like to see an improved dog run and more use of the baseball area for soccer. Wallace noted that it might be hard to renovate "this dinosaur" on the \$6 million allotted to the project. "We are going to have to think smart about what we want," she said.

Kawamura said he is not aware of any plans to do similar drastic renovations at other Noe Valley parks, including Douglass Park and Playground and Dolores Park. But, he noted, the city recently installed a new retaining wall at Noe Courts and is re-planting the area around it.

Community members and Kawamura are planning a second meeting for January. Ironically, the gathering cannot be held at the Upper Noe Recreation Center, because the facility does not meet accessibility standards for city-sponsored meetings. But that, Kawamura hopes, will soon change. □

For information on the next public meeting to discuss the renovation of Upper Noe Recreation Center, call Keith Kawamura at 415-581-2546.




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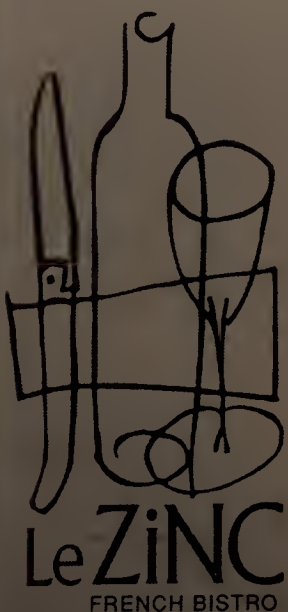
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Noe Valley Goes Wireless

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By Elizabeth Morse

Many Noe Valley residents and businesses depend on the Internet for their daily work. Or they use it to send e-mail, do medical research, scan apartment listings, or check movie schedules. Most have DSL or other high-speed Internet connections, but some are starting to discover the world of "Wi-Fi."

Wi-Fi stands for "wireless fidelity," and as you might have guessed, Wi-Fi allows you lose all those cumbersome wires. Wi-Fi also refers to 802.11b, a type of short-range wireless technology that lets you beam data to your computer via radio waves.

For about \$200, people can set up their own Wi-Fi network, featuring a special antenna that "broadcasts" about 300 feet. Over the past few years, these Wi-Fi "hot spots" have been popping up in cafes, homes, and businesses around Noe Valley. Currently, www.wi-finder.com lists nine in the 94114 and 94131 zip codes.

Author Zack Lynch is one of several Noe Valley residents who have set up Wi-Fi networks in their homes. Wi-Fi lets him take his laptop outside the confines of his office and enjoy the change of scenery. "Because I went wireless, I can continue using the Internet to fact-check my book from any location in the house, including my backyard," he says. Similarly, Christian Wolff, a local digital video programmer, installed a home Wi-Fi network and uses it to tap into the Internet while sitting at his nearby laundromat.

Wolff and Lynch—and anyone else with a Wi-Fi-enabled computer—can also stroll over to Café XO at 30th and Church streets. Adam Bousiakos, XO's owner, installed his wireless network last February and has seen a steady stream of laptop-toting customers ever since.

"We have the wireless network and Internet access for the convenience of people, and also because there was nothing [for public Internet access] on this side of Noe Valley," Bousiakos says.



Café XO advertises its free Internet access with a sign above the entrance at Church and 30th streets.

Customers can use XO's air waves to connect to the Internet while sipping their coffee at an outside table. (The café also has a couple of Internet terminals inside, for those who want to connect the "wired" way or who don't have laptops.)

Other coffeehouses, such as Starbucks on 24th Street, offer wireless Internet for a fee. Starbucks' wireless network is operated by a company called T-Mobile and costs \$2.99 per 15 minutes. Why pay? Most of the paid services offer easy-to-use software and customer service, so it doesn't require too much computer savvy in order to wirelessly connect.

Even with the connection fee, Starbucks has plenty of users and has received good feedback on its service, the staff says. In surrounding neighborhoods, the Morning Due Café (on 17th Street), Dolores Park Café (Dolores and 18th), and Jumpin' Java Café (on Noe Street) also offer wireless Internet access.

Keep in mind that Wi-Fi technology is not yet built in to all laptops and requires a little tinkering to install. (For more information, try the Wi-Fi Alliance at www.wi-fi.net.) Regardless, Noe Valley residents are already enjoying the wireless Internet and the freedom it brings. □

Twenty-ninth Street resident Elizabeth Morse is a freelance web-site developer and software consultant who has enjoyed the benefits of a home wireless network for about a year.

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This bright white fence on Church Street provides a symbolic separation between private yard and public walkway.
Photo by Pamela Gerard

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4:45 p.m. Family Service • 6:30 p.m. Blue Christmas Service
8:00 p.m. Regular Service • 10:00 p.m. Communion Service

Sunday, December 29th

11:00 a.m. Kwanzaa Service • 5:00 p.m. Soulful Sundown

COME JOIN US!



Co-Ministers - Margot Campbell Gross and John Newcomb Marsh
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Saint Paul's Parish Christmas Schedule 2002

ST. PAUL'S PARISH COMMUNITY WARMLY INVITES
YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO SHARE
WITH US THE LOVE THAT IS CHRISTMAS.

Christmas Concerts in the Church

Wednesday, Dec. 11 — San Francisco Priest's choir — 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 14 — Parish Christmas Concert — 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 17 — Advent Communal Reconciliation — 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Masses

TUESDAY, DEC. 24

4:30 p.m. — Family Mass with Children's Choir
8:00 p.m. — Mass in English with Adult Choir
11:30 p.m. — Christmas Concert
12:00 Midnight — Bilingual Mass with Choir

Christmas Day Masses

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25

8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m., and 5 p.m. (English) 10:45 a.m. (Bilingual)

There will be no 12:15 p.m. Mass on December 25

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1, 2003 NEW YEAR'S DAY

9:15 a.m. Mass in English

*Merry Christmas, Joyeux Noel, feliz Navidad,
Maligayang Pasko, Buon Natale*

221 Valley Street

San Francisco, California 94131 • 415-648-7538

ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH

725 DIAMOND STREET
415-282-0141



Christmas Services 2002

Saturday, December 21

Confessions, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24

Mass: 8:00 a.m. • Confessions, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Family Mass at 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25

Masses: Same as on Sunday: 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.;
11:15 a.m. in Spanish at the Convent, and 12:00 Noon

Come Home for Christmas!

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Looking for a place
to worship this
Christmas?

Holy Innocents
could be the place
for you.

Special Christmas Services

Christmas Pageant

Wednesday, December 18 - 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Services - 10:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Services - 11 a.m.

Christmas Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 29 - 11 a.m.

Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church

455 Fair Oaks Street • between 25th & 26th, Dolores & Gurrero
415-824-5142 • www.holyinsf.org



NOE VALLEY MINISTRY

Presbyterian Church, USA

1021 Sanchez Street at 23rd Street 415-282-2317

Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childcare provided
Rev. Keenan C. Kelsey, Pastor

Caroling on a Real Cable Car
Wednesday, December 4, 7 p.m.

Labyrinth Walk
Sunday, December 8, 7 p.m.

Christmas Pageant
Saturday, December 14, 5:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE Service
Family Service
Tuesday, December 24, 7 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE Service
Tuesday, December 31, 7 p.m.

God's Inclusive Love Practiced Here

**You are
welcome
to any
and all
Holiday
Events**



DECEMBER 2002

DEC. 1–DEC. 31: "NOCTURNES: Fort Mason and Environs" features the night photography of Noe Valley residents Tim Baskerville, Marc Babstein, Carol Henry, and Lance Keimig. Artist's reception Nov. 6, 5–8 pm. Fort Mason, 441-3400.

DEC. 2: The STONESTOWN STROLLERS hold a one-hour fitness walk for new mothers, 8:30–10 am. Meet at the Nordstrom Espresso Bar in Stonestown Galleria, 19th Avenue at Winston Drive. 759-2600.

DEC. 2–JAN. 31: LIVING T'AI CHI of Noe Valley offers classes in meditation and Oigong, taught by Chris Sequeira. Mon. and Tues., 6–7:30 pm, at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., and Wed. and Fri., 10:15 am–noon, at Douglas Park. 773-8185 or 650-756-6857.

DEC. 3 & JAN. 21: FILMS for preschoolers age 3 to 5 will be shown at 10 and 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

DEC. 4: Julia Fischer discusses "Staying Healthy Through the Holidays with AROMATHERAPY," 7–9 pm. Scarlet Sage Herb Company, 1173 Valencia St. 821-0997.

DEC. 4: Deirdre Lynch introduces her documentary film *Photos to Send*, retracing photographer DOROTHEA LANGE's trip to County Clare, Ireland. 7–10 pm. City College, Rosenberg Library, Room 305. 239-3580.

DEC. 4, 11 & 18: Learn to knit a pair of socks on circular needles in Sara Lucas' KNITTING CLASS, "Sock It to Me," Wednesdays, 7 to 9 pm. ImagiKnit, 3897 18th St. 621-6642.

DEC. 4, 18 & JAN. 8: TOURS of Fairmount Elementary School offer a view of pre-K to fifth-grade classes, Spanish-immersion and English-only. 9 am. 65 Chenery St. 695-5669.

DEC. 5–7: "I Want to Be a Boarder: An Evening of YIDDISH VAUDEVILLE" portrays the experiences of immigrants in the early 20th century in songs and comic stories. Thurs.–Sat., 8 pm; Sat. & Sun., 2 pm. SFSU Studio Theater, 19th Ave. at Holloway St. 338-1341.

DEC. 5–14: SAY RAY: A *Holiday Miracle* returns to the Marsh. Thurs.–Sat., 8 pm. 1062 Valencia St. 282-2018.

DEC. 5–23: The second annual "Just Bazaar" at 66 Balmy Gallery features eclectic arts and crafts for sale. Thurs.–Sat., noon–9 pm, Sun., noon–6 pm; receptions Dec. 7 & 19, 7–10 pm. 66 Balmy Alley. 648-1760.

DEC. 5–JAN. 30: The self-help group FOOD ADDICTS in Recovery Anonymous (FA) meets on Thursdays at the Noe Valley Ministry. 8:15 to 9:45 am. 346-7407 or 504-9779.

DEC. 6: A TEDDY BEAR TEA PARTY for kids begins at 4 pm. Bernal Heights Library, 500 Cortland Ave. 695-5160.

DEC. 6: Celebrate CHANUKAH at a party sponsored by Chabad of Noe Valley. 6 pm. 889 Elizabeth St. Rabbi Gedalia Potash, 821-7046.

DEC. 6: BEYT TIKKUN celebrates Chanukah with singing and dancing, candle lighting, a Shabbat service, and a vegetarian potluck. 7 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 575-1432 or rabbiterner@tikkun.org.

DEC. 6: The CELEBUTANT BALL features music and dancing, and benefits the Harvey Milk Institute. 7 pm–midnight. S.F. LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. 865-5633.

DEC. 6: Women's vocal ensemble KITKA performs "Wintersongs," a holiday concert of ethnic and spiritual music from Eastern Europe. 8 pm. St. Gregory's Church, 500 De Haro St. 510-444-0323.



Singer/songwriter/guitarist Sonia performs at the Noe Valley Music Series on Jan. 11.

DEC. 6 & 8: SWAMI ASOKANANDA, president of Satchidananda Ashram, holds a Q&A discussion on Dec. 6 and a Sadhana intensive one-day retreat on Dec. 8. Both, 9 am–5 pm. Integral Yoga Center, 770 Dolores St. 821-1117.

DEC. 6–8: The CREATIVITY EXPLORED Holiday Sale features original artwork in a variety of media and a raffle. Dec. 6, 6–9 pm; Dec. 7 & 8, 11 am–6 pm. 3245 16th St. 863-2108.

DEC. 7: The CARNIVAL OF CHAOS' Holiday Vaudeville Cabaret features "superhero stunts, insane juggling, wild contortion, and strange and silly songs." 2:30 and 8 pm. The Randall Museum, 199 Museum Way. 554-9600.

DEC. 7: Sherrie Dobrott performs a PUPPET SHOW for all ages, *The Mitten*. 11 am. Excelsior Library, 4400 Mission St. 337-4735.

DEC. 7: Mango Jam guitarist and vocalist ERIKA LUCKETT celebrates her CD release with a concert also featuring Zoe Lewis. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

DEC. 8: The San Francisco Waldorf School's WINTER FAIR features a silent auction, toys, and handiwork for sale, and merrymaking. 10 am–4 pm. 2938 Washington St. 931-2750.

DEC. 8: S.F.'s Lesbian/Gay Chorus performs at the monthly PFLAG meeting. 2–4 pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St. 921-8850.

DEC. 8: The Bach Delegates perform a seasonal concert, "In Dulci Jubilo," at the Noe Valley CHAMBER MUSIC concert. 4 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 648-5236.

DEC. 8: *Lillie*—A Musical, the story of actress and vintner LILLIE LANGTRY, is performed by soprano Karen Melander-Magoon and pianist Bill Keck. 5 pm. The Second Sundays Series at Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church, 455 Fair Oaks St. 824-5142.

DEC. 9: ODD MONDAYS at the Noe Valley Ministry features Joe Sulton reading from his novel *Morning Pages* and short-story collection *The Immortal Mouth*. No-host supper at Noe Valley Pizza, 5:30 pm; reading at the Ministry, 7 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317.

DEC. 9: The Bethany Theater Project holds AUDITIONS for Sondheim's *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*; prepare a song from a Broadway musical and a one- to two-minute monologue, and bring sheet music and a headshot. 7:30 pm. 1268 Sanchez St. 701-7011.

DEC. 10: VOTE in today's run-off election for District 8 supervisor. Polls are open 7 am until 8 pm.

DEC. 10: ERIKA LOPEZ "had it all and threw it away," and she discusses it at 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246.

DEC. 10, 17, 24 & 31; JAN. 7, 14 & 28: Preschool STORY TIME, a read-aloud program for children 3 to 5, begins at 10 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

DEC. 10 & JAN. 14: The New College of California School of Law offers a workshop, "How to Present a Case in SMALL CLAIMS COURT." 6 pm. 50 Fell St. 241-1300.

DEC. 11: The annual Holiday Party and GIFT FAIR at the Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center features items from local graduate business owners. 11 am–7 pm. 275 Fifth St. 541-8580.

DEC. 11: A customer appreciation HOLIDAY CELEBRATION at See Jane Run features appetizers and drinks. 6–9 pm. 3870 24th St. 401-8338.

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JANUARY 2003



DEC. 11: The Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association hosts its HOLIDAY BUFFET, "A Taste of Noe Valley." 6:30–9 pm. Bank of America, 24th & Castro. For info call 641-8692.

DEC. 11: Six local MYSTERY writers, Sheldon Siegel, Cara Black, John Lescoart, Michael Castleman, Lynne Murray, and Mark Coggins, read from their work in a program hosted by Diane Kudisch of the San Francisco Mystery Bookstore. 7 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

DEC. 11: The PRIESTS CHOIR of the Archdiocese of San Francisco performs a concert of Christmas and Advent songs at St. Paul's. 7:30 pm. St. Paul's Church, Church & Valley. 648-7538.

DEC. 12: The Friends of Noe Valley HOLIDAY PARTY includes music, food, a silent auction to benefit the Noe Valley Library, and a toy collection for the S.F. AIDS Foundation's Women and Family Holiday Party on Dec. 19; bring a new, unwrapped toy. 7 pm. Latvian Hall, 425 Hoffman Ave. 282-4334.

DEC. 13: The SFSU Chamber Singers perform a CANDLELIGHT CONCERT of works by Palestrina, William Hawley, and Brahms. 8 pm. Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St. 338-7761.

DEC. 13 & 14: HOLLY NEAR and Linda Tillery perform a concert at the Brava Theater Center. 8 pm. 2789 24th St. 647-2822.

DEC. 14: SANTA will be checking lists and posing for photographs between 10 am and 3 pm at the Bank of America, 24th and Castro streets. Sponsored by the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association.

DEC. 14: Santa and ELVES will be handing out candy canes and apple cider in front of Zephyr Real Estate. 11 am–2 pm. 4040 24th St. 695-7707

DEC. 14: The S.F. League of Urban Gardeners (SLUG) offers a workshop for making holiday gifts from the GARDEN, including wreaths, and herbal body-care products. 1–3 pm. Building 603 in the Presidio, at Fort Mason and Halleck St. Preregistration required at 561-7752.

DEC. 14: The Noe Valley Ministry presents *The Baby Born in Bethlehem*, a NATIVITY PAGEANT written by Betsy Bannerman. 5:30 pm, followed by a lasagne and salad supper. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317.

DEC. 14, 21 & 28: LAPSITS for babies, toddlers, and their parents feature songs, stories, and finger plays. 10:30 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

DEC. 15: The Ina Chalis Opera Ensemble performs *AMAH! and the Night Visitors*, after a visit from Santa Claus. 11:30 am. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 647-6015.

DEC. 15: St. Philip the Apostle Choir presents a CHRISTMAS CONCERT. 4 pm. St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond St. 282-0141.

DEC. 17: Ingleside Station invites you to the regular POLICE-COMMUNITY meeting to discuss local crime issues. 7 pm. Ingleside Station, 1 Sgt. John Young Lane at San Jose Ave. 404-4000.

DEC. 18: The annual Do-It-Yourself CHRISTMAS PAGEANT welcomes adults and children of all ages, costumes provided. 6:30 pm. Holy Innocents Episcopal Church, 455 Fair Oaks St. 824-5142.

DEC. 19: Apply for VOLUNTEER orientation at St. Luke's. 3–5 pm. 3555 Cesar Chavez St. 641-6465

DEC. 19: The Bernal Heights BOOK DISCUSSION CLUB's December selection is Dylan Thomas' *Under Milkwood*. 4 pm. Bernal Heights Library. 500 Cortland Ave. 695-5160

DEC. 21: CAROLERS will sing songs of the season in Downtown Noe Valley between 10 am and 3 pm, courtesy of the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association.



Kitka vocal ensemble sings seasonal music from Eastern Europe in a Dec. 6 concert at St. Gregory's Church. Photo by Jan Watson

DEC. 21: A CELTIC SOLSTICE concert features pipers, percussion, strings, and step dancers. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

DEC. 24: The CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION and potluck at Integral Yoga Center includes a service; bring a dish to share with no meat, fish, or eggs. 770 Dolores St. 821-1117.

JAN. 4: The San Francisco GIRLS CHORUS holds auditions for the winter program, for ages 7 through 12. Call 673-1511, ext. 301, for an appointment.

JAN. 4: Folk music legend RAMBLIN JACK ELLIOTT starts the new year with a concert at the Noe Valley Music Series. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238

JAN. 5–26: See Jane Run sponsors Sunday 5K FUN RUNS beginning at 10 am. Meet at 3870 24th St. 401-8338

JAN. 6: The STONESTOWN STROLLERS hold a one-hour fitness walk for new mothers, and discuss newborn massage. 8:30–10 am. Meet at the Nordstrom Espresso Bar in Stonestown Galleria. 19th Avenue at Winston Drive. 759-2600

JAN. 9: Friends of Noe Valley's annual BOARD MEETING is set for 7 pm. Noe Valley Library. 451 Jersey St. 282-4334

JAN. 11: A LION DANCE and martial arts demonstration in honor of Chinese New Year will be performed by the Jing Mo Athletic Association. 4 pm. Noe Valley Library. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095

JAN. 11: GLAMA award-winner for female artist of the year SONIA, from the band Disappear Fear, performs at the Noe Valley Music Series. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238

JAN. 18: A JOHN FAHEY TRIBUTE features guitarists Casey Robb and Phil Kellogg. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238

JAN. 25: Bassist Michael Manning, flutist Larry Kassin, and pianist Tom Darter perform dazzling improvisations. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

Another Year Has Come and Gone

And the Voice is shutting down our computers and taking a month-long snooze. Our next edition will be the February 2003 issue, distributed on or before **Feb. 1**. If you would like to publicize your event in the February calendar, please let us know by **Jan. 15**. Our address is Calendar, *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114

Or you may send e-mails to zabarska@aol.com. Thanks.

JAN. 26: Soprano Christine Brandes and pianist Laura Dahl perform a concert of Baroque and classical music at the Noe Valley CHAMBER MUSIC concert. 4 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 648-5236

JAN. 28: Noe Valley residents and merchants are invited to attend the monthly POLICE-COMMUNITY meetings held at Mission Police Station. 6 pm. 630 Valencia St. 558-5400

JAN. 29: POETS Deborah Major, Diane di Prima, Clive Malson, Gail Ford, Gerry Nicosia, and Alan Cohen read their work from the anthology *An Eye for an Eye Makes the Whole World Blind. Poets on 9/11*. 7:30 pm. Noe Valley Library. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095

JAN. 31 & FEB. 1: LATIN PERCUSSIONIST John Santos joins Cuban-born pianist Elio Villafranca in concert. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

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The card features a decorative border of holly leaves and berries. The leaves are dark green with prominent veins and sharp points, while the berries are bright red and clustered together. The background is a light cream color.

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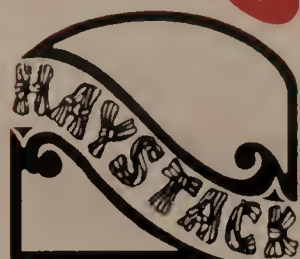
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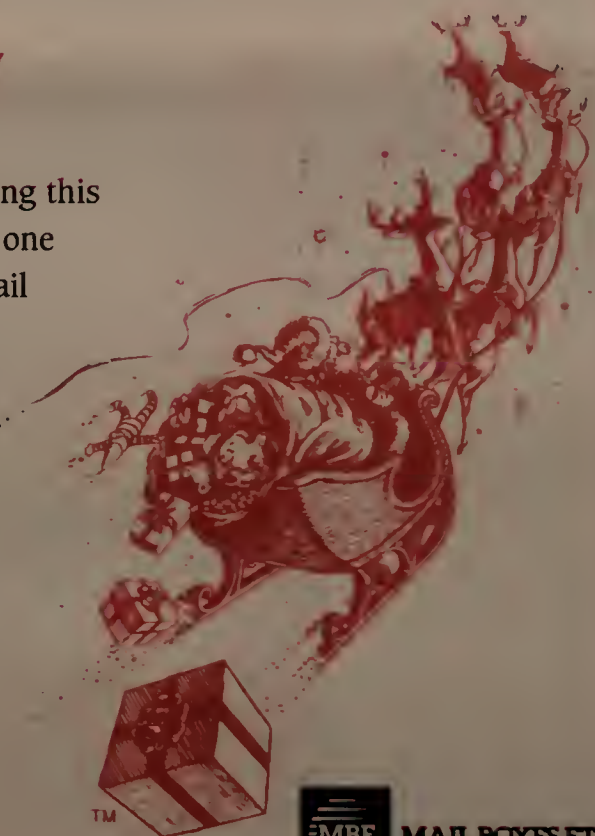
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SATURDAYS.....DECEMBER 14 & 219 A.M. - 5 P.M.

WEEKDAYS.....DECEMBER 2 - 208:30 A.M. - 6 P.M.

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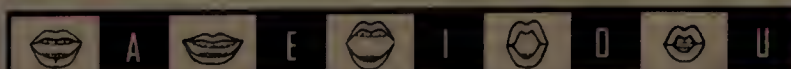
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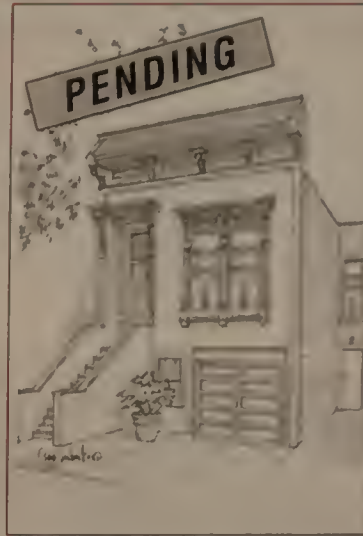
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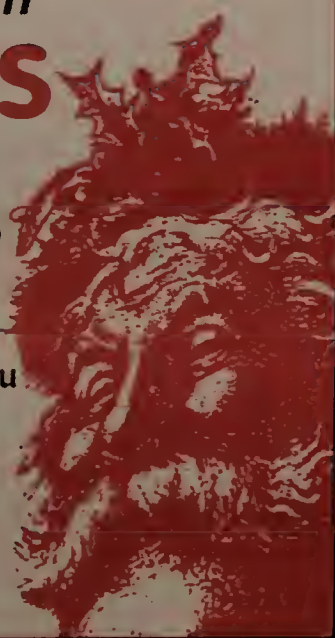
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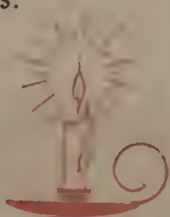
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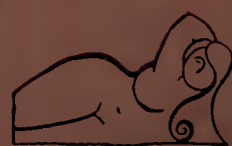
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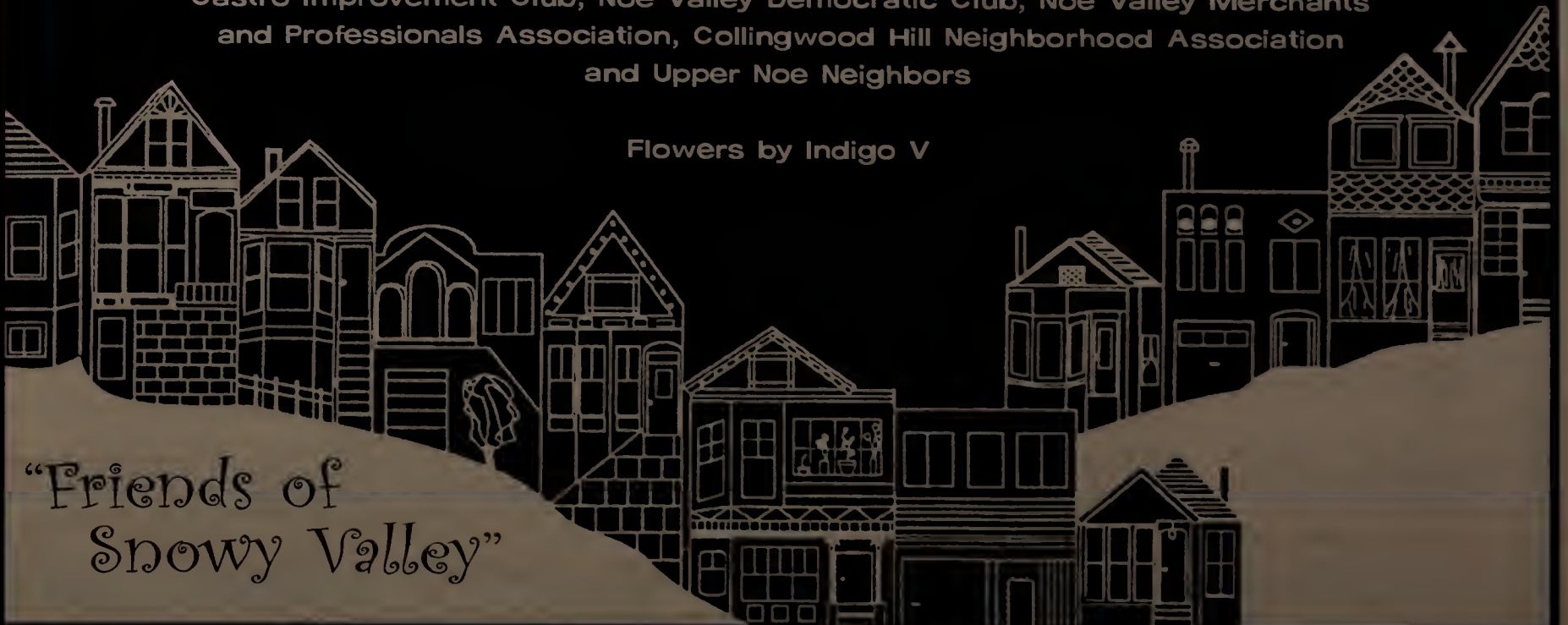
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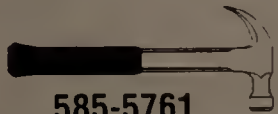
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STORE TREK

By Olivia Boler

Store Trek is a regular *Voice* column profiling new businesses in and around Noe Valley. This month we introduce a new skin care center at the corner of Church and 25th streets.

NOURISH SKIN CARE CENTRE
1301 Church Street at 25th Street
415-285-6464
www.nourishskincare.com

The complexion of Church Street keeps changing, and in mid-October the new face on the block was Nourish Skin Care Centre, filling the spot occupied for many years by renowned ophthalmologist Dr. Robert Neger.

Owner Marianne Hoeft says Nourish is neither a spa nor a salon, but "a fresh approach to skin care. We have our clients fill out an in-depth consultation form—asking about their home-care routine, their general health, their specific skin problems and concerns—and then we do a professional analysis and tailor their treatment to what their skin care needs are on that particular day. It's still a pamper-

ing, relaxing experience, but it's a little more clinical" than the facials you might get at a traditional beauty salon.

Hoeft's overall goal—and that of the three skin care therapists in her employ, Kimberly Kopcha, Maria Ramirez, and Meredith Thouron—is to help clients achieve and maintain healthy skin.

But she also wants to provide an attractive, soothing environment, she says. Last spring, Hoeft hired architect Geoff Holten and contractor Eric Mannon to revamp the interior of the former doctor's office. Holten used subtle materials—light hardwood floors, pale cream walls, and small track lights—to create a clean finish that is warm rather than sterile. "It's not frilly, and men should feel as comfortable here as women do," Hoeft says.

Nourish has three treatment rooms, each equipped with a padded, heated table-bed (with blankets), soft music and lights, and the tools of the trade—bottles and tubs filled with good-smelling and good-for-your-skin lotions, cleansers, and gels.

Services include the signature "Nourish Treatment": an "elixir" beverage, double cleansing of the face, microfoliation, face mapping, manual extractions, treatment masque, and hand, arm, and shoulder massage. Full body massages are not on the menu, but clients can experience "Touch Therapies," which target specific areas of stress on the face, scalp, or back.

The Nourish Treatment ranges in cost



Owner Marianne Hoeft (right) and manager Meredith Nortman unveiled Nourish Skin Care Centre on Church Street in October.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

from \$60 to \$120 and lasts from 45 to 105 minutes, depending on the extras you order. (Through Dec. 31, new clients will receive a complimentary face mapping, a technique the therapists use to analyze your skin under a magnifying glass.) In addition, Nourish provides foot reflexology and waxing services. Waxing prices start at \$10 for the chin or upper lip, and run to \$60 for a full leg and bikini wax.

Nourish also offers a skin care line called Dermalogica, made by an international company based in Los Angeles. Hoeft says she tested the line while studying for her esthetician's license in Australia (she is licensed in New South Wales). Dermalogica products run the gamut from hand lotions (\$6.50) and facial masques (\$11.50 to \$36), to shampoos (\$13), conditioners (\$14.50), and ingestible elixirs (\$28.50).

All of Nourish's skin care therapists

have their esthetician's license and continue their education through classes at Dermalogica's International Dermal Institute. Therapist Kimberly Kopcha says the classes are great for keeping up with the latest technology in skin care. "We want to know what's out there, so our clients can benefit," she says.

Before becoming a skin care specialist herself, Hoeft worked for eight years as an account director for Turner Broadcasting. Originally from Concord, Calif., she and her husband, computer consultant Ken Raley, bought their home in Bernal Heights in 1994. Raley's career took them to Australia for three years, before landing them back in San Francisco last May.

Hoeft says she is delighted with the transformation of Church Street since her return. Businesses like Willa, Amberjack Sushi, Incanto, and Café XO have made the neighborhood a more desirable location, she says.

In the month and a half since Nourish has been open, "we have been getting a lot of foot traffic, which is great," Hoeft says. Her husband, whom she describes as a "behind-the-scenes" director of Nourish (he helped set up the shop's computer network), has contributed to the buzz by hoofing it around the neighborhood and putting up flyers.

Hoeft also values the assistance of Noe Valley resident Meredith Nortman, who manages the shop. She and Nortman may expand the hours soon, but for now Nourish is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.



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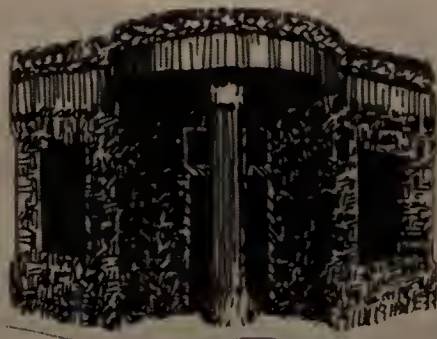
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SHORT TAKES

Friendly Fundraising

The residents' group Friends of Noe Valley will light up Latvian Hall with its annual Holiday Party on Thursday, Dec. 12, beginning at 7 p.m. Festivities will include a silent auction to benefit the Noe Valley Library renovation, music, children's activities, a no-host bar, plenty of food, and a toy drive for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's holiday party for low-income women and families.

"We've had an incredible amount of support from all the organizations in Noe Valley—Noe Valley Democratic Club, East & West of Castro Club, Collingwood Hill Neighborhood Association, Upper Noe Neighbors. And so many local merchants and businesses have made contributions to help support the party. We're coming together for a great cause, and we're throwing a great party, and so now we need people in Noe Valley to come," says Friends president Jeannene Przyblyski.

Silent-auction items include restaurant gift certificates, tickets to sports events, certificates for business services, performances, food and wine, children's toys and clothes, one-of-a-kind art, and more.

Toys for the toy drive should be new and unwrapped and can be suitable for a youngster of any age. Przyblyski notes, however, that the greatest demand is for toys for kids in the 5 to 16 age bracket.

Latvian Hall is at 425 Hoffman Avenue, near 24th Street. Admission is \$10. For more information contact Przyblyski at 282-4334 or jprzy@pacbell.net.

James Lick's Collegiate Side

The spring semester at City College of San Francisco begins Jan. 14, at nine city campuses including our own Castro/Valencia Campus, within James Lick School at 1220 Noe Street. The Noe Valley site offers low-cost credit and free non-credit classes, in everything from Classical Guitar, Practical German, and American Government to Tai Chi for Health.

All classes meet either on Saturdays or on weekday evenings. "We have five new classes this semester that we haven't offered at this campus either ever before or for a long time," says Debra Porter, of the Castro/Valencia Campus office.

The three new classes are Astronomy I: Cosmic Evolution, which meets on Mondays; Women in Mass Media (Mondays); and a course in the psychology of sex differences (Thursdays). The two returning classes are Introduction to Literature in Spanish (Mondays), and Photography for the Enthusiast (Saturdays).

Another first this semester is Art 130A. "It's going to be a combination online and studio class. The lecture part of the class will be online, and the students will come in on Saturdays for the drawing/studio part. It's the first time we'll be offering an online art class," says Porter.

Sanchez Street resident Ellen Chestnut is enthusiastic about Professor Loren Bell's short-story class. "It's walking distance from my house, and he has introduced me to stories that I'd never read before. I grew up with the Anton Chekov tradi-

tional-type short stories, and we're getting very experimental works here," she says. "I especially like the mix of students—all age groups, a good mix of men and women—and it's very supportive when we workshop one another's stories."

You can register onsite during the first two weeks of classes, space permitting. Preregistration information and a full class schedule are online at www.ccsf.edu. City College requests that you walk or take public transportation to class. If you must drive, please park in the school's lot at 25th and Castro instead of on the street. For further information call 239-3127.

Sleuth-sayers at the Library

The San Francisco Mystery Bookstore will host a suspense-filled night at the Noe Valley-Sally Brunn Library on Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m. Six Bay Area mystery authors will participate.

"There's going to be a panel, and each author will get 15 to 20 minutes to talk about their books, and there will be a question-and-answer period," says Diane Kudisch, the bookstore's owner. "Their books will be on sale too, and I will, of course, donate some of what we earn to the library [renovation]," she adds.

Featured authors will be Cara Black, a Noe Valley resident who pens mysteries about a female French-American computer whiz; Sheldon Siegel, who writes legal mysteries situated in San Francisco; Mark Coggins, who writes Silicon Valley-based private-eye mysteries; John Lescroart, who also specializes in legal mysteries; Michael Castleman, who has authored a San Francisco-based mystery that begins during the 1906 earthquake and jumps ahead to the 1989 earthquake; and Lynne Murray, author of the Josephine Fuller mystery series.

"I'm always very excited about promoting local authors, and these writers, in particular, are very supportive of the community," notes Kudisch.

The bookstore is on 24th Street near Diamond, but the event will take place around the corner at 451 Jersey Street, between Castro and Diamond. For more clues, call Diane Kudisch at 282-7444.

Get Out and Vote

November's race for District 8 supervisor was so close that we're facing a Dec. 10 runoff between the two leading candidates, Eileen Hansen and Bevan Dufty.

Among the six original contenders, Hansen garnered 36.3 percent of the vote to Dufty's 32.5 percent. Both candidates are highly regarded and experienced community leaders. For information about Dufty's credentials, platform, and endorsements, visit www.bevanduffy.com or call 355-9888. To get the skinny on Hansen, visit www.eileenhansensf8.info/home.htm or call 552-0345. Readers can also look up last month's *Voice* story on the candidates (www.noevalleyvoice.com).

District 8 encompasses Noe Valley, the Castro, and several surrounding neighborhoods. On Dec. 10, polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. However, you can vote earlier by dropping by City Hall (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) on any weekday through Dec. 6. Early voting will also be available the weekend of Dec. 7 and 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information and the location of your polling place, go to www.ci.sf.ca.us/election, or call 554-4375.



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SHORT TAKES

See Jane Run for Fun

The staff at See Jane Run wants you to hit the ground running in 2003. Each Sunday of the month, Jan. 5, 12, 19, and 26, the women's athletic store and resource center is holding a 5K Fun Run, open to all. To participate, just slip on your running shoes and dash to the store located at 3870 24th Street at 10 a.m.

Runners will be given maps for the course, which will take off from the store. Free water will be provided, along with coffee, bagels, and goodie bags. Each run will be followed by a footwear clinic, sponsored by New Balance, Mizuno, Adidas, Saucony, Asics, and Brooks.

For those with even more ambition, See Jane Run will hold an informational meeting and kickoff for its spring triathlon season on Wednesday, Jan. 8, at 7 p.m. For more information call 401-8338 or visit www.seejanerunsports.com.

9/11 Poetry Reading

The Noe Valley-Sally Brunn Library is hosting a powerhouse poetry event on Wednesday, Jan. 29, at 7:30 p.m. Six of the Bay Area's best-known poets will read works they contributed to the anthology *An Eye for an Eye Makes the Whole World Blind: Poets on 9/11*.

The lineup includes current poet laureate of San Francisco Devorah Major; the renowned activist and Beat poet Diane di Prima; Allen Cohen, editor of the *Oracle*, the famous 1960s Haight-Ashbury newspaper; Gerry Nicosia, a Vietnam veteran, peace activist, and author of *Memory, Babe*, a biography of Jack Kerouac; Clive Matson, author of *Let the Crazy Child Write* and seven books of poetry; and Gail Ford, who has run the Drunk on Poetry salon in the East Bay for 10 years. Admission charge: zero.

"We'll each have 15 to 20 minutes. That's enough to read what's in the book and several other pieces, and all of us have political poetry. It'll be a reading for peace," says Matson, who edited the anthology along with Allen Cohen.

Published this year by Regent Press, *Eye for an Eye* includes works by more than 100 poets. In addition to those reading at this event, some of the luminaries in the book are Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Robert Pinsky, Michael McClure, Nellie Wong, and Neeli Cherkovski.

The project began with Matson's poem

"Towers Down," written within a week of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. "The poem came up in me. I pushed it away. I didn't want to write it, but it insisted, and finally I surrendered and wrote the poem," he says. He showed it to several friends, one of whom was Diane di Prima. Di Prima had also written a poem in response to the Sept. 11 events and proposed that they publish a joint chapbook. Word about the project spread, and it wasn't long before Matson and Cohen were selecting the best of 800 submissions for their book.

The Jan. 29 reading is part of a poetry series organized by Noe Valley head librarian Roberta Greifer. The branch is located at 451 Jersey Street, near Castro; for information call 695-5095.

Mind Over Food Matter

If you find that you can't resist the bonbons and honey-coated nuts at holiday gatherings this season, hypnotherapist Kerstin Sjoquist is offering a four-session class that uses group hypnosis to get you back on track. It's called "Create the Body You Desire: Weight Management with Hypnosis," and a new series begins Jan. 20.

"Students who've taken the class find that it's still supporting them, and I'm going to start a monthly follow-up session which people can use to stay motivated," says Sjoquist.

The class costs \$160 and meets Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m. at Sjoquist's office, a converted garage she shares with two other hypnotherapists at 1423A Sanchez Street near 27th Street. "Each of us has a slightly different approach, and since rapport is something that's very important between a hypnotherapist and a client, this works out well because we can refer people to each other," Sjoquist notes.

In addition to weight control, Sjoquist offers classes and private sessions on such topics as career development, relationship enrichment, improving memory and concentration, and pain management. For more information, call 385-8382 or visit www.consciousnessarts.com.

Meanwhile, the members of Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) are meeting on Thursday mornings from 8:15 to 9:45 a.m., at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez Street. There are no dues, fees, or weigh-ins at FA, which describes itself as a "program for individuals recovering from addictive eating and anorexia, based on the 12 steps of Alcoholics Anonymous." If you'd like to learn more about the local FA, call Denise at 346-7407 or go to www.foodaddicts.org.



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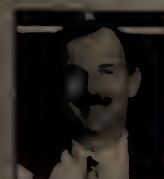


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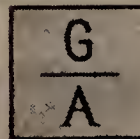
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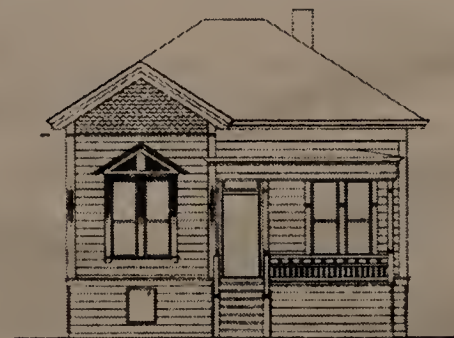
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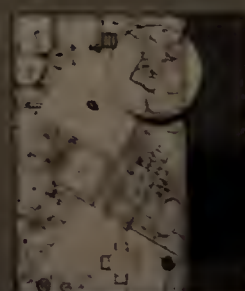
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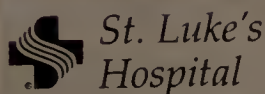
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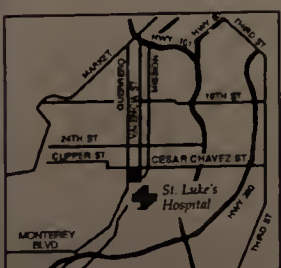
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A Shaggy Dog Story

Voice raconteur and artist Florence Holub wrote this piece 11 years ago, for the December 1991 issue. It's the tale of a scruffy stranger who padded into Noe Valley one day in search of a home.

The stray dog who wandered up our steep hill 10 years ago was a pitiful-looking creature with thick gray matted fur, head hanging low, and a slow ponderous pace. Our mail-



man offered this undocumented bit of lore: "Old dogs always come to the top of a hill to die." This statement, as well as his appearance, reinforced the already sympathetic inclination of the residents of our block, and since we didn't know what to call him, my husband Leo dubbed the canine Underdog.

Our neighbor, the late Janet Pera (a tenderhearted animal lover), was the first to put out a bowl of water, and with this small act of kindness, the dog settled into the life of our street. During the ensuing days, bowls began to appear on doorsteps up and down the block, and as Underdog made his daily rounds, his steps became quicker and his head was held higher. It became apparent that he was not about to die.

At first, he slept in the open carports below the apartments at Church and 21st streets until driven away by nocturnal headlights. Gradually, he gravitated to our house, sleeping on the front porch, where we had placed a blanket for him. Strangely, he never barked, although our old dog Fred, who was pretty indignant, barged him with

furios "yaps" through the cracks around the front door.

Underdog remained so reticent we wondered if he was mute. But perhaps this trait had allowed him to survive as a street dog—he looked like he had been wandering for some time.

At first, he allowed no one to touch him. Whenever a contact gesture was made, he retreated backwards, just out of reach. After days of offering reassurance, however, Leo was able to touch him, and slowly the dog responded. Then he allowed Janet to pet him, but she fled home in tears, crying, "The poor animal has lumps all over him!" This was true, but fortunately the lumps turned out to be just big clumps of matted fur, which Leo set about getting rid of.

Each day on our front stairs, Leo struggled with comb and brush to dislodge the tangles, but it was a futile effort. The combings did improve the shaggy fellow's appearance, however, and, we assumed, his chances of finding a home. But we were not nearly as concerned about his coat as we were about his neck, because strays were picked up regularly by the Animal Care and Control van. To help Underdog avert this fate, a local telephone network sprang up, with the neighbors pursuing every possible lead to find a haven for this hound—before the dogcatcher caught up with him.

Just when we had almost given up hope, our neighbor Rhea, the widow who lived across the street, informed us that she was considering taking the dog. It didn't take long—all she had to do was look into his trusting eyes. The rapport was mutual, and the decision to take him home was made.

The next day, in celebration, the four of us—Rhea, Leo, myself, and Underdog—went to the groomer, who offered

vinced that he preferred French music, so she usually chose Debussy or another French composer for their duets.

On Underdog's second visit to be clipped, the groomer stated firmly, "This dog isn't a schnauzer after all, he's a standard gray poodle," and proceeded to give the appropriate clip, complete with top knot.

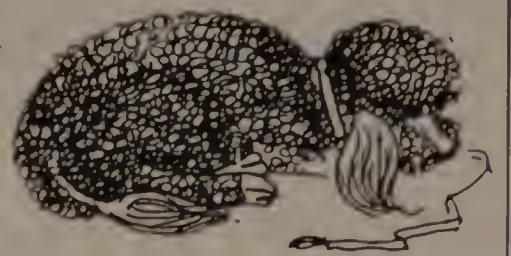
Underdog was now a sturdy, fine-looking animal with a long thin tail ending in a plume, and perfect white teeth through which an amusing pink tongue hung out. He had become so elegant, in fact, that Rhea renamed him Jacques.

Jacques had a delightful way of welcoming his human friends. He would bound into the air, five feet or more, again and again. Whether Rhea had been gone for five minutes or five hours, she got the same joyful reception.

Conversely, whenever young men walked up 21st Street, Jacques, from behind the wrought-iron gate, would bark angrily until they were out of sight, perhaps sparked by the memory of some earlier mistreatment.

Rhea, like so many widows, had been left with an empty home and terrible loneliness. But Jacques changed all of that. A beautiful relationship developed between them as they became a familiar sight walking around the hilltop—the lady and her gray poodle. On their daily outings, they met other people walking their dogs, and a whole new social life evolved for Rhea during the following months, until illness struck. Then various neighbors, or Rhea's nurse, took turns walking Jacques.

Upon Rhea's death, the neighborhood was spurred into action once again, expanding the network until it extended along the Peninsula. One man came



Jacques, for some strange reason locked away in his memory, was unable to accept Alice's grown son, so she was forced to return him.

Undaunted, we put together an illustrated flyer and posted it everywhere, including the open-air flower shop operated by Barbara and Louis Bischoff, next to Aquarius Records [where Lit'l Lizards is now]. The flier caught the attention of the owner of Aquarius, Butch Bridges. Butch was familiar with poodles because his mother had always had one, so when he saw Jacques, he was impressed.

At their arranged meeting, Jacques was trembling from a disquieting day of unexpected changes, but when his prospective owner knelt to reassure him, he calmed down. Butch then led him home to a new and more athletic lifestyle. In keeping with this new lifestyle, he altered the dog's name to Jock. There was a change in the music, too. Instead of French classical, it became strictly rock 'n' roll.

During a short period of adjustment, Jock barked his benefactor from room to room, but the response he received was only one of kindness, patience, and firmness, until he recognized this young man as a friend. In a few days, Jock was leaping into the air joyously every time his master returned.

They became constant companions, and could often be seen walking or jogging around 26th and Church streets. They tended the store together, made business calls with Jock sitting regally in the back seat of Butch's foreign sports car, and even went shopping on 24th Street.

I met them one day during the Christmas rush, and Butch told me, "Jock's getting along fine, everybody loves him—even the old cat accepts him—and he's transferred completely to me." Then, proudly, "He's a good dog!"

Butch and Jock had three great years together, but then Jock fell ill, and when his vital organs stopped functioning properly, his master performed the last act of kindness—he held his dog in his arms as the doctor put him to sleep.

Jock is buried in Marin County, close to a house near a wooded area, where he and Butch used to wander on weekends.

As Christmas approaches, I am reminded of the joy we all felt for the good fortune of our furry friend—Jock, alias Jacques, alias Underdog. □



Illustrations by Florence Holub

his expert opinion. He said that Underdog was in excellent health, was accustomed to being groomed, and was only about three years old. As to his breed, he was less certain, but he judged him to be a schnauzer. Because of the heavy matting, the groomer estimated that Underdog was carrying six months of neglect on his back, so he clipped him down to the skin, but he left the traditional schnauzer moustache.

We chose a red collar and leash, then Rhea took him home to his new life as a pampered house dog. He proved to be adaptable, intelligent, housebroken, and musical! This was important because Rhea had shared musical evenings with her late husband Ted—she at the piano and he on the flute. It had come as a delightful surprise one evening, as Rhea played at the keyboard, to hear her pet raise his voice in a high-pitched, lilting accompaniment. After that, they often performed together. Rhea became con-

vinced that he preferred French music, so she usually chose Debussy or another French composer for their duets. She led Jacques back and forth on the lead, he performed to her satisfaction, and she took him home with her. Within a few days he was leaping happily into the air, she reported, and in a few weeks he was singing as she played the piano.

We thought all was well, but she phoned not too long after that, to say she was obliged to return him, upon doctor's orders, because he was too large for her to handle. This was apparent when I arrived at her apartment to pick him up. In recognition, he jumped up and down explosively and nearly knocked his frail mistress down.

Our neighbor Janet then found a new mistress for Jacques, and so for a few months the late Alice King, who worked at the Bank of America on 24th Street, could be seen walking a gray poodle around the neighborhood. But

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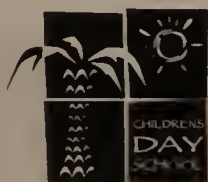
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FAMILY ADVENTURES

ARE WE THERE YET?

CLOSE TO HOME

Escape to Alcatraz
Visiting the Rock at Night

By Janis Cooke Newman

Alcatraz is a different place at night. When the sun sets and clouds of fog spread over the sky like lethal gas, it's easy to imagine the bent-nosed profile of an Al Capone or Doc Barker sliding past the barred windows of the massive stone cellhouse. At night, when the barbed-wire fences and looming guard tower turn into shadows, the island seems once more the haunt of notorious criminals like Alvin "Creepy" Karpis and Robert Stroud (the Birdman of Alcatraz). Take away the sunshine and blue skies, or even the bright daytime fog, and the Rock reverts to its more sinister incarnation.

In the 20 or so years I've lived in the Bay Area, a steady stream of visiting family members from New Jersey has ensured that I take plenty of trips to Alcatraz during daylight hours. But until now, I've never paid a visit to the prison at night. As I disembark from the evening ferry with my husband and 7-year-old son Alex, I catch sight of the burned shell of the warden's residence, the bleak cellhouse growing dim in the fading light, and I have no trouble believing that this was the scene of five suicides and eight murders.

"An intimate experience designed especially for locals" is what the National Park Service promises guests on its Alcatraz Night Tour, operated year-round with the Blue & Gold Fleet. "Beautiful city views and a spooky atmosphere."

The experience is more intimate than the day tours because Blue & Gold runs only one ferryload of people to and from Alcatraz at night. It's designed for locals because they can plan their visit to coincide with one of the National Park Service's special monthly programs. And the atmosphere is spooky because of the nearly 30 years the island spent as a maximum-security prison (1934-63). The convicts locked up on Alcatraz were considered "incorrigibles," or as I explain to my son, "really bad guys."

We're met at the dock by a 20-something park ranger who sports a pair of muttonchops reminiscent of certain members of Credence Clearwater Revival. As the sky grows dark, our muttonchopped guide tells us the history of Alcatraz Island, from its days as a Civil War fort meant to protect San Francisco from itself (the city was home to both Union and Confederate sympathizers), to the 19-month Indian occupation (1969-71), during which Native American leaders offered to buy back the island for the same amount Dutch

settlers paid for Manhattan in the 1600s.

As our guide talks, we follow him up a winding path past chainlink fences to the cellhouse entrance. Once there, he bids us farewell, and we file into the dimly lit building like newly convicted felons. However, instead of being issued striped suits, we're given a digital cassette player and a pair of headphones.

The audio tour of the Alcatraz cellhouse was created by Marin-based Antenna Theater and tells the story of Alcatraz's days as a prison in the words and voices of the guards and inmates who lived there. We slip on our earphones and walk down a wide hallway that the prisoners once dubbed Broadway. On the audio tour, a prison guard explains the rules: "You are entitled to

**"[Birdman] Robert Stroud,"
a ranger informs
us, "was more
Hannibal Lecter than
Burt Lancaster."**

food, clothing, shelter, and medical attention. Anything else you get is a privilege." As we make our way past a double row of cells, we hear the sound of shuffling footsteps and the catcalls and whistles of invisible prisoners.

In the prison library, the audio tour describes the escape attempt of a convict named Bernie Coy, who was employed

shadowy. I'm listening to the clinking of metal forks and knives, and I believe I can almost see the ghostly eaters sitting shoulder to shoulder on the long benches.

Now as we walk past the prison cells, their dark corners seem to hide the hunched figure of a convicted murderer or guilty kidnapper. Peeking into one cell, I see the head of a sleeping prisoner and yank away my son, who has been running his hand along the bars. "Cut it out!" he says.

Having started his audio tour a minute before me, he already knows that what I have just rescued him from is a dummy head, much like the ones used in the successful prison break of Frank Morris and the Anglin brothers.

As my tape catches up with his, I learn how in June 1962, Morris and John and Clarence Anglin dug their way out of their cells with metal spoons. Before they escaped into the prison's ventilation system, they stuffed clothes beneath their blankets and covered their pillows with dummy heads, topped with real hair collected from the prison barbershop. Using raincoats for flotation devices, the three prisoners jumped into the bay, bound for San Francisco. Their bodies were never found, and although prison officials assume the men drowned, nobody knows for sure.

After our audio tour, we have a little time to poke around the gift shop. Alex spends his allowance on a metal



The lighthouse that presides over Alcatraz becomes a chilling sight when darkness descends on the prison.

water tower, where the Park Service conducts most of its special programs.

"Robert Stroud," a ranger informs us, "was more Hannibal Lecter than Burt Lancaster."

We huddle together as he tells us the story of the convict whose actual nickname was "Bird Doctor of Leavenworth" (Stroud never actually kept birds when he was at Alcatraz), a man who stabbed and murdered more people in prison than out of it.

As we stand there listening, the fog hanging over the bay lifts just enough to reveal the cold white light of a full moon. Above us, the water tower mysteriously lights up and then goes dark, illuminated by the circling beam of the Alcatraz lighthouse. Behind the blackened windows of the cellhouse, I imagine I can hear the ghostly exhalations of three decades of sleeping convicts deemed too dangerous for anyplace but this isolated island.

Alex inches closer and slides his hand into mine. I shiver and think, No doubt about it, this is not your tourist's tour of Alcatraz. □



Three ingenious prisoners escaped from Alcatraz in 1962 by tricking the guards into thinking they were fast asleep in their beds.
Photos by Ken Newman

Are We There Yet? is a *Noe Valley Voice* feature about places to go and things to do with your kids. If there's an activity or outing you'd like to see explored, please e-mail Janis Cooke Newman at thereyet@noevalleyvoice.com.

delivering books to the other inmates. At the point in the story where Bernie assassinates a guard, we hear gunshots followed by peals of demonic laughter.

In the dining hall, we learn about the big spaghetti riot, which was sparked by the deteriorating quality of the prison kitchen's tomato sauce. Outside the wire-covered windows, it's pitch dark and the cavernous dining hall is dim and

digging spoon just like the one the Anglin brothers used. I peruse the *National Park Cookbook*, which features recipes for Point Reyes Scampi and Yosemite Chicken Parmesan. Then it's time for tonight's special program, which is titled, "Genius or Madman? Robert (The Birdman) Stroud."

We head back into the darkness, walking down the path to the foot of the

Escaping to Alcatraz

The Blue & Gold Fleet and the National Park Service run night tours to Alcatraz Thursday through Sunday. From now until March 30, the night tour ferry leaves Pier 41 at 4:20 p.m. and leaves Alcatraz for the return trip at 7 p.m. There's an additional ferry Dec. 26-30, which leaves Pier 41 at 5:10 and leaves Alcatraz at 7:50. (When the days get longer, the tour leaves later.)

This tour frequently sells out, so buy tickets in advance. Tickets, which include the audio tour and any special programs the Park Service is running, are \$20.75 for adults, \$18 for kids 12 to 17 and seniors over 62, and \$11.50 for kids 5 to 11. Proceeds benefit the National Park Service. To buy tickets, phone 415-705-5555, or visit www.blueandgoldfleet.com

For more information on the Park Service's monthly special programs, phone 415-561-4926 or visit www.nps.gov/goga/parknews and check out the calendar. Past programs have included talks on Robert Stroud, the life of a prison guard, and solitary confinement.

Parking around Pier 41 can be expensive—steer clear of the big Pier 39 lot on the Embarcadero. Better parking deals can be had by driving a few blocks away from the wharf. Better yet, take the historic F streetcar down Market Street to the Embarcadero.

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Muchos Gracias to Noe Valley Bakery, Haystack Pizza, and Starbucks Coffee for providing bread and pastries for our school programs and events, with special thanks from the James Lick Community Alliance and the parents, students, and musicians who attended our recent fundraiser for Music in the Schools. We love our neighbors!

Time to Give Back: Did you know there are 600 parking meters in Noe Valley—approximately one for each student at James Lick Middle School? Working in partnership with the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association, our students provided holiday decorations for the meters along 24th Street between Diamond and Chattanooga to earn community service points.

Students are also participating in Lick's Bulldog Cafe, flea markets, bake sales, and other school fundraisers to com-

plete the 40 hours of service required for graduation.

You Could Be a Star! Love to dance? Is your inner drummer yearning for a gig? Noe Valley neighbors may enroll in ongoing Cuban dance and drumming lessons in the school gymnasium. Participants also perform in San Francisco's annual Carnival. Please call the school for more information.

Itching to Travel? Students in our Spanish Immersion Program will study in Mexico Feb. 6–16, 2003. The public is invited to join us for our annual Friends and Families of James Lick trip in June 2003, when we will travel to Portugal and Spain. Contact Mr. Raymond Ponce for more information.

Former Bulldogs, Unite! We are still looking for James Lick alumni who can share memories and pictures, and some of our neighbors have expressed interest in having class reunions. Contact Gail Koucereck for more information.

Susan Cattoche
VOLUNTEER

Janice Daniels
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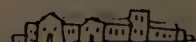
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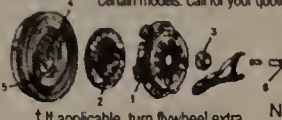
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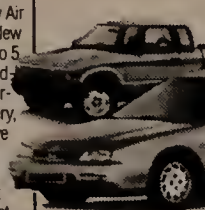
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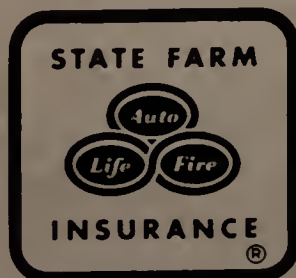
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BOOKS in our BRANCH

This month's new books list, selected by Noe Valley branch librarians Roberta Greifer and Carol Small, features new tales from Stephen King and Sue Grafton, Daniel Ellsberg's Vietnam memoir, and a story about a dog who pretends to be a cat. To find out what books are available, call 695-5095 or visit the Noe Valley-Sally Brunn Library at 451 Jersey Street near Castro. Besides books, the branch offers magazines, videos, DVDs, and the archives and index to the *Noe Valley Voice*. It also has periodicals such as *USA Today* and the *New York Times*, a collection of books in Spanish, and a section devoted to college and career resources. Branch hours are Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Wednesdays, 1 to 9 p.m.; Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays, 1 to 6 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Adult Fiction

◆ In Sue Grafton's *Q Is for Quarry*, two aging detectives yearn for retirement, but first they must solve a gruesome murder that has been haunting them for years.

◆ An otherworldly secret, kept in a secure holding shed by the police in rural Pennsylvania, begins to stir and unravel in Stephen King's *From a Buick 8*.

◆ In the historical novel *The Glorious Cause*, Jeff Shaara describes the personalities involved when the 13 colonies were pitted against the might of the British Empire.

Adult Nonfiction

◆ In *Just Lucky I Guess*, the indomitable Carol Channing recounts her amazing career in show business.

◆ In *New Public School Parent*, veteran schoolteacher and National Education Association President Bob Chase guides parents through the complexities of today's public school system.

◆ In *Secrets: A Memoir of Vietnam and the Pentagon Papers*, Daniel Ellsberg details how lies and deception were at the root of America's involvement in Vietnam.

◆ In *Don't Call Me Old: I'm Just Awakening*, Marsha Sinetar, author of *Do What You Love: The Money Will Follow*, highlights the path to successful aging.

Children's Fiction

◆ Tim visits his future school and gets a preview of all the interesting activities that await him in *Welcome to Kindergarten*, Anne Rockwell's latest picture story. *Ages 4 to 5*.

◆ In *Widget* by Lyn Rossiter McFarland, a little stray dog decides that the best way to get along with the six suspicious cats in his new home is to pretend to be a cat, until an emergency teaches Widget's new family that having a dog around can come in handy. *Ages 4 to 6*.

◆ You can go through the day of a blind person and her guide dog in Glenna Lang's *Looking Out for Sarah*, based on a real person and guide dog who once walked from Boston to New York together. *Ages 4 to 7*.

◆ Gus wants so much to play well in the game, but when this doesn't happen he receives a valuable tip in *Gus and Grandpa at Basketball*, by Claudia Mills, illustrated by Catherine Stock. *Ages 5 to 8*.

◆ Will Rose, Lily, and little Ned be able to escape from the orphanage, avoid Mack the Knife, and find their father? The answers are in *Spring-Heeled Jack* by award-winner Philip Pullman. *Ages 6 to 9*.

◆ In an exclusive boarding school for girls, the main character learns that befriending Fannie Macintosh has unexpected repercussions, in Sally Warner's historical novel *Finding Hattie*. *Ages 10 and up*.

Children's Nonfiction

◆ If you want to communicate with your baby using signs before he or she learns to talk, you can use two board books by Kim Votry, *Baby's First Signs* and *More Baby's First Signs*. *Ages 9 months and up*.

◆ David A. Adler summarizes the life and achievements of *Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.*, including some painful experiences from his early life. *Ages 6 to 8*.

Noe Valley Library Highlights

An Evening of Mystery

◆ Six local *mystery writers*, Sheldon Siegel, Cara Black, John Lescroart, Michael Castleman, Lynne Murray, and Mark Coggins, read and discuss their work in a forum hosted by Diane Kudisch of the San Francisco Mystery Bookstore on Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m.

Chinese New Year Celebration

◆ The Jing Mo Athletic Association performs a *Lion Dance* and martial arts demonstration for all ages at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 11.

9/11 Poetry Reading

◆ Renowned Bay Area poets Allen Cohen, Diane di Prima, Gail Ford, Deborah Major, Clive Matson, and Gerry Nicosia will read their poetry from *An Eye for an Eye Makes the Whole World Blind: Poets on 9/11* (edited by Allen Cohen and Clive Matson), on Wednesday, Jan. 29, at 7:30 p.m.

Preschool Story Time

◆ Children ages 3 to 5 can come hear stories read aloud at *preschool story time*, at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays, Dec. 10, 17, 24, and 31, and January 7, 14, and 28.

December and January Films

◆ Preschoolers 3 to 5 are invited to watch *films* at 10 and 11 a.m. on Tuesdays, Dec. 3 and Jan. 21.

Family Lapsits

◆ The library's family *lapsit* offers stories, songs, and finger plays for infants and toddlers at 10:30 a.m. on Saturdays, Dec. 14, 21, and 28.

Librarians Roberta Greifer and Wayne Donica contributed this month's adult book annotations. The children's book descriptions were written by librarians Carol Small and Donna Trifilo.

"My theory is that people who don't like mystery stories are anarchists" - Rex Stout

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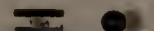
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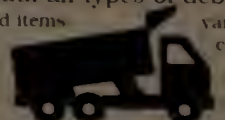
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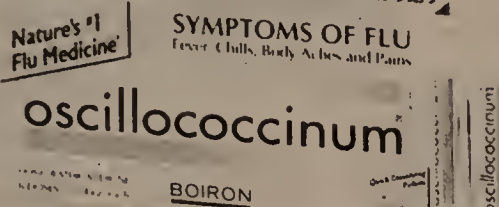
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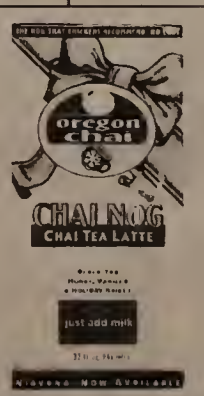
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Jour 21: News Writing and Reporting Th 6:30-9:30pm 1800 Market St/#306
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Jour 22: Feature Writing M 6:30-9:45pm 1800 Market St/#306
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Jour 23: Electronic Copy Editing T 7:00-10:00pm Phelan Campus LIBR #209
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Jour 24: Newspaper Laboratory M/W/F 12-1pm Phelan Campus BNGL#209
Advanced newspaper laboratory focused on the publication of the college paper, The Guardsman.

Jour 27: Newspaper Design/Pagination W 7:00-10:00pm Phelan Campus BNGL#209
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Jour 29: Magazine Editing & Production T&Th 1-2pm Phelan Campus ARTX#274
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2. **Saves shopping time and costs** (gas, parking hassles and tickets)
3. Guides you to **new and interesting wines**
4. **Avoids the swill**; I suggest what NOT to buy
5. Finds **unusual cheeses and other foods**. Where is the next great bread? Try Berkeley Bowl & Rainbow Grocery which carry the Bread Workshop Olive Bread (white and wheat flours and black pepper, just yummy)
6. References **entertaining, high level articles** about wine and food
7. Provides **unbiased and uninfluenced recommendations**; no perks from wineries or stores - I pay for everything I review for you.
8. Tells you **what to expect from service at stores**; you will either be on your own or get good advice
9. Informs on **how to read wine labels and defines tasting terms** with clarity

How Crush Works

1. **Crush™** is emailed (aka **eLerts™**) every first and third Thursdays of the month by 6pm for your weekend shopping. **eLerts** notify you of **best buys** on wines from newspaper ads and store visits. Cheeses and other foods as well as spirits and brews will be noted. Extra eLerts are sent near major holidays
2. **Additional spontaneous eLerts** will notify you of buys that may run out in a New York minute. For example, I found the 2000 Mark West Chardonnay (Sonoma) for, are you ready? \$2.99 at Trader Joe's this summer. It was a big, oaky wine and **a steal** at that price
3. Articles are referenced for you to enjoy. For example, cheese lovers must read **RAW FAITH: The nun and the cheese underground**, (The New Yorker, 8/19 & 26, 2002) - a nun with a chem. degree makes cheeses in Connecticut from raw milk and notes the huge effect of natural bacteria on the taste of cheese, and whether unpasteurized raw milk cheeses are safe
4. **Comments on customer service** at the variety of stores and whether the staff is knowledgeable & helpful, return policies and the like
5. An **archive of all wines** reviewed for the calendar year is available for \$5

Introductory & Ongoing Offers - Sign up by December 31, 2002 for \$29/year; 2 years for \$49. Each time you refer a paid subscriber, \$5 is donated to Visual Aid, a Bay Area non-profit, which provides supplies and programs to artists with life threatening illnesses. Regularly \$39/year - 2 years \$59. 1st issue - November 14, 2002. You may pay by credit card online or by check.

Go to **www.tmarascocrush.com** to subscribe

Or call Terry @ 415-643-7344

I'll Drive You grocery shopping, doctor appointments, or other San Francisco errands. Personalized service (can help you shop, carry groceries, wait for you in doctor's office, etc.). Very dependable and friendly. Outstanding references. \$20 per hour (two-hour minimum). Please call Bill, 826-3613.

The Writing Salon. Year-round creative writing classes in all genres. 642-9793; www.writingsalons.com.

Hip Opening Workshop. Learn some hip opening poses that allow more movement and comfort in the body and ease the mind. It's suitable for beginners and more experienced. Bring a towel or mat. Tuesday, Dec. 3, 6 to 7:30 p.m. \$9. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

Having a Party? Need extra help? Experienced and knowledgeable staff ready to work at presentation, kitchen, service/bar, cleanup. Call David at 415-298-4797 for availability and quote.

Holiday Sale. New queen bedspread, sealed in package, off-white "Christine" by Spiegel, was \$300; \$150 or best. Ashton Drake cahnage patch porcelain twin dolls and others. Pemberton Oaks and Bradford plates, "Santa's Workshop," "Just We Two," and more. All limited editions and collectable. Boxed like new, \$35 each. Treadmill—get in shape for 2003! "Lifestyler" Expanse 2000. Loaded. Was \$600, \$300 or best. Located in San Francisco. Dale at 831-840-5141.

Van Gogh talk at the Noe Valley Library, Wednesday, Nov. 13: Will the man who was so very knowledgeable about Dr. Gachet and Vincent Van Gogh please call Marlene at 415-515-9248? I would very much like to talk to you.



Wedding/Commitment Ceremonies, readings, and healings. Spiritual assistance through life transitions since 1985. (Rev.) Angel Stork, 415-831-9429.

Certified, Experienced Pilates Instructor Beth Leber teaches privates and semi-privates in her clients' homes and in her Noe Valley home studio. Beginners welcome. Affordable rates. She also teaches group classes. For more info or to schedule, call 415-695-0908, e-mail info@soundbodypilates.com, or visit <http://www.soundbodypilates.com>.

Garage for Rent. Sanchez/Jersey. \$175 per month. 648-8614.

Liz's Unique Bed and Breakfast. Old world charm at affordable rates. Guests will awaken to the fragrance of homemade delicacies and fresh ground coffee. Call Liz, a gracious and knowledgeable hostess. 415-648-2515.

Christmas Celebration and Potluck. This is a day for all of us to come together and rejoice in our Christ consciousness. The day will include a service and a vegetarian lunch. Please bring a dish to share, with no meat, fish, or eggs. Wednesday, Dec. 24, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. By donation. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

Beautiful, Private Garden Flat in Noe Valley, two weeks to three months. Self-contained; all amenities, including fireplace, piano, full kitchen, washer, and dryer. Looks onto garden. Quiet home, owner-occupied. Ideal for academics. One-bedroom, sofa bed in living room. Great location. \$2,600 per month or \$850 weekly. Please call 415-821-4872. Web site: www.sanfrancisco-victorian.com.

Peaceful Kingdom Petsitting. Quality care for your animal friends. Our commitment to service and gentle, loving care is legendary. Pet medications are our specialty. Please call JoAnn, 415-920-1973.

Seagrass Hideaway. Beautiful, stylish, and spacious short-term rental apartment in the Noe Valley/Castro area. Newly renovated, views, garden, hot tub, fitness equipment, gourmet kitchen, cable TV, DVD, VCR, stereo, easy street parking, and half block to Muni. 415-824-0704; seagrasshideaway.com.

Buddhist Feng Shui Landscaping. Specializing in koi ponds, waterfalls, and stone masonry; a Zen approach to landscaping. Marc Fortin Landscaping, C.S.L.B. #805494. 415-515-5295.

Give Artful Attention to the stuff of your life. Small groups meet once a month. No art skills needed. Choose from weekday morning, weekday evening, and weekend morning group options. Call 415-821-3456 for details. Sue Lebeck, M.A., Expressive Arts Therapist.

Hauling/Cleaning. Backyards and gardens, garages also. Kevin, 775-2246.

Russian River Vacation Home in sunny redwoods. Near Duncan Mills/Cazadero. Hot tub, wood stove. Sleeps six plus. Fully equipped, with linens. \$190 per night, \$795 per week. Ellen Weinstein and Fred Weiner, 415-587-7424.

Handier Andy. Home repairs, carpentry, stairs, decks, fences, sheetrock, ceramic tile, painting. 415-564-1175.

CLAS ADS

Bed and Breakfast in Noe Valley. Experience the Victorian charm of old San Francisco in designer's beautiful, spacious, three-room suite with private entrance. Delicious fare, reasonable rates, two blocks to 24th Street. "A Victorian Legacy." Call Patricia, 648-8879.

Math and Verbal Tutoring. Get professional instruction from a full-time tutor with years of experience. Always dedicated, one-on-one attention. Excellent referrals from students in top San Francisco high schools. SAT, PSAT, SSAT, GRE, GMAT, any level math course. David Freeling, B.A., M.A., Columbia University. 415-285-0574.

PC Training. Introduction to Win, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Internet, by a very patient community college teacher. Special offer: 1 1/2 hours for \$40. 861-1491.

Looking for an Experienced (20 Years), reliable housecleaner? Stop your search! One person cleans your home, not teams; I have great clients and references. Are you tired of teams of different people doing low-quality work, if they show up at all? I run a professional, high-quality service. Call Ta-Da Housecleaning, Kathyjean at 415-285-3014.

Sadhana Intensive with Swami Asokananda: One-Day Retreat. This one-day retreat will provide a good opportunity for steady practitioners of yoga to deepen their spiritual practice. It is recommended that you have at least a year's experience in Hatha Yoga and meditation. Sunday, Dec. 8, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$75. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

House Cleaning. First-class detail work. 14 years in Noe Valley. Excellent references. George, 285-7279.

Licensed General Contractor. Kitchen and bath remodel, seismic/structural, stairs, decks, windows, doors. Construction and repair. Thorough, reliable, references. 25 years serving San Francisco neighborhoods. Thomas Cunniff, 415-861-5099.

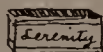
Dog Walking Service of San Francisco: 731-0120. Established 1995. Bonded and insured!

Too Many Papers? Too Little Time? Call home and office organizer Margo Rila at 415-861-4551. www.margo.byetewright.com. References. Reasonable rates.

Hypnosis and Hypnotherapy. Help with lessening/eliminating habits and addictions, pain, performance anxiety, and general stress and anxiety. Caring, experienced, certified; 18 years experience. Free phone consultation. 24th Street office. Janell Moon, 415-824-2490.

Transform Your Jungle into a paradise. Pruning, cleanups, planting, lawns, irrigation, maintenance. Call Jorge at 826-7840 for free estimates. Remember, it's pruning time.

House Painting: Journeyman, 12 years experience with San Francisco interiors and exteriors. Kevin, 775-2246.



Housecleaning Specialist. Experienced, reliable, dependable, flexible, energetic. Excellent references. CDL. Run errands. Also baby/house/pet sitter. Available seven days a week. I provide all cleaning supplies. Affordable prices and free estimate. Call Denise, 415-452-8939 or 260-5539; degus-mao@hotmail.com.

Donner Summit/Serene Lakes Ski House. Three-plus bedrooms, sleeps eight. Rental: \$200 per night, holidays, \$275 per night. Next to Royal Gorge, 10 minutes to Sugar Bowl, near North Lake Tahoe. Three-hour drive from San Francisco. See differentswavelength@yahoo.com.

House Cleaning. Homes, apartments, offices. References available, experienced. Call Alaci or Carlos at 650-994-4668.

Cutting the Reins of Illusion. Everything we do in our lives we hope that somehow, ultimately, it will bring us happiness. But how often are we chasing illusions that supply only momentary pleasure or never happen? Come join us for a discussion on where is happiness and how do we get there from here. Monday, Dec. 16, 6 to 7:30 p.m. \$9. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

Bodywork and Movement Analysis. Claudia Singer, C.M.T., C.L.M.A., S.H.P.E. Rehabilitate from injury, improve alignment, release excess tension, improve athletic performance through movement and hands-on work. Call 415-820-1410.

Sheila's House Cleaning. Homes, offices, apartments. Great housekeeping. Good references. Call Sheila, 650-758-4505.

Seeking Host Families for foreign students studying in downtown S.F. A great opportunity for cultural experience. Short- and long-term stay. Arrangements and compensation available for hosts with English as primary language. 415-509-4967.

Short-Term Rental in Upper Noe Valley. Our two-bedroom apartment has been beautifully remodeled and decorated, and is available by the weekend or the week. Enjoy the marble and granite bathroom, a working kitchen, TV with DVD and VCR. Deck, backyard, and laundry access. Well-behaved dog OK, with discussion and deposit. Good street parking with easy walk to public transit. Perfect for guests who are looking for accommodations with personality. Alan, 824-2028.

Home and Office Cleaning. Excellent references, reasonable prices. For more details, call Russkaya and Alexis at 415-823-0531.

Licensed Painter. Large or small jobs. Painting and plaster repair. Water damage repaired. Free estimates. License #497-214. Call Ed at 995-4666.

Bookkeeping. MYOB, Quicken, Quick Books, Excel. 25 years experience. \$50 per hour. 415-643-2800; www.handshake.biz.

Paris Apartment. Charming one-bedroom, remodeled, sleeps four. Ninth Arrondissement, minutes from opera, Montmartre. Near fabulous Market Street. See www.frenchapt.freesevers.com. Call 415-282-8912.

House Cleaning. Are you looking for a reliable person to clean your house? You can count on me. Available seven days a week. Good references and own transportation. Phone 650-738-1263 or 650-346-1914, Tara and Maria.

Piano Lessons. Noe Valley-based musician with B.A. and M.M. in music and pedagogy, all ages, kids a specialty! 15 years experience. Carla, 415-648-3651.

HIV and Yoga. This drop-in Hatha Yoga class is for those whose lives have been touched by HIV (including family, friends, and caregivers). Beginners welcome. Bring a towel, loose comfortable clothing, and an empty stomach. Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$9 (\$6 for first class or needing assistance). Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

Housecleaning Available. No time? We do it all. Housecleaning, windows, carpets... Great references, reliable, professional. Six years experience. Also experienced house sitters. In San Francisco and Peninsula. Call Adriana, 650-367-6298.

Watercolors! Specializing in houses, gardens, and views. Free consultation: 331-1668. Commission brochure at SusanSternau.com.

Stop Looking for It! We've got it. The best cleaning you have ever had. We clean offices, houses, apartments, etc. Free estimates! Call 415-845-3688.

Vacation Retreat for Noe Valleyans. Calistoga/St. Helena area. Three bedrooms, two baths, sleeps six (maximum); large decks with views of stream, woods, and meadow. Fireplace with wood supplied; 30 acres, trails, all-year stream, ornamental fish pond. Dogs OK. Three-night weekend, \$500; stay up to four more nights for free. Additional nights after first seven are \$70 per night or four weeks at \$1,750. Discount given to repeat guests. 415-647-3052 (phone and fax).

Home and Office Cleaning. Excellent references. Experienced and reliable. Available seven days a week. Call Alexandra, 415-747-2283. God bless you.

Tree Care. Pruning for fruit, shape, and overall good health of fruit trees, ornamentals, natives, and shrubs. Kevin, 775-2246.

Gentle Yoga for the Mind, Body, and Spirit. Simple stretches, yoga postures, deep relaxation, and breathing techniques to gently stretch and strengthen the body. Beginners welcome. Bring a towel, loose clothing, and empty stomach. Tuesdays, 4:30 to 6 p.m., and Sundays, 9:30 to 11 a.m. \$9 (\$6 for first class and seniors). Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 821-1117.



House Cleaning. I clean homes and apartments: kitchens, baths, floors, stoves, refrigerators, ovens. Move in and out. I have references and experience. Please call Maria, 415-841-9875.

Custom Carpentry. I build custom bookcases, CD shelving, cabinetry, and other interior. No job too small! Happy to help you design what you need. 415-647-6397.

Make It What You Want! Interior Design—Have the home you always imaged for yourself. Color Consultant—Having trouble picking out those perfect colors for your home? Set up a consultation to get the color you want. Remodeling Project Manager—You don't have to worry about the contractor ripping down the wrong wall. I manage your contractors for you. Call 180° Design, Kathyjean Boise, 415-285-3014.

Proofreading/Copyediting by professional with 17 years of experience. Manuscripts, brochures, flyers, newsletters, academic papers, etc. Reasonable rates. Call My Editor at 415-492-1131.

Bed and Breakfast in Noe Valley. Parents of friends coming, and no room? Have them stay in a lovely two-room apartment with private entrance and bathroom, fireplace, kitchen, and antique furnishings. Near 24th Street, J-Church line. Oliver House, 415-695-0700, or oliverhouse.info.

PC/Mac/iMac Computer? Need Help? I can... help you clean up your computer, get your computer talking to your printer and modem, set up e-mail and the web, etc. I'm the tech coordinator at an elementary school. Done in your home. 642-8287.

Do You Need Housecleaning? We will do it. References. \$15 per hour. Call Jose and Sara, 415-643-1262.

Telecommunications Services. Residential/business. Jacks installed and wiring for phones, computers, intercoms, CATV. Sales, installation, and repair of telephone, voice mail, intercom, security camera, and door-answering systems. Residential remodel, new construction, commercial consultation. Free estimates. Quality work—reasonable rates. All Wired Communications, Lic. #796389. Kent, 401-0214.

Foot Massage/Reflexology. Relaxing, revitalizing, healing 60-minute session. Quiet location. References. 12 years experience. Trained in Asia. Licensed in San Francisco. Call Stephen Cavaliere at Wisdom Fitness of Noe Valley, 415-505-0409.

[[gleem]]

Health and Fitness Support Group forming. As we approach our 60s, 70s, and 80s, we want to be able to do most of the things we did when we were younger! Learn how. Ages 40s to 60s ideal for this group. 415-668-8310.

Meditation Workshop. This is a practical workshop that will enable you to begin earnest meditation on your own. A clear understanding of what meditation is, how it works, and how to make it an enjoyable daily experience will be presented. It's suitable for beginners and more experienced students who want to be inspired. Tuesday, Dec. 10, 6 to 7:30 p.m. \$9. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

Charlie the Phone Guy: Residence, business, home office telephone wiring. Fax/modem lines, DSL, Ethernet, too! Dead jacks brought back to life! Separate jacks for roommates. On-time appointments! Free estimates. Noe Valley resident. Call 641-8654. E-mail sfphoneguy@aol.com.

Bed and Breakfast "Cottage Gate." Charming studio apartment; queen bed, kitchenette, breakfast choices provided, phone, cable, private bath, security gate, level private entrance. 20th and Douglass. 415-626-6497.

Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork: Instructor at well-known, state-accredited massage institute since 1993 currently has openings in private practice. Over 25 years experience in Swedish-style based work with a wide range of modalities incorporated. Appointments are available in lovely professional studio on Mondays and Fridays for clients seeking regular, periodic, or single sessions. (Limited number of holiday gift certificates available through December.) Please call Essential Touch Bodywork at 385-3549.

House Cleaning. Excellent references. Reliable, professional, and reasonably priced. Offering work six days a week. For more details call Leidiane at 415-334-9348.

Superlative Word Processing. Experienced professional, B.A. English, M.S.W. Understandable advice. Business, medical, academic, legal; resumes, manuscripts. Expert editing. Fax machine. Laser printing. Good rates. Call anytime. 824-7736.

Carpentry: All Aspects. Great references, 20 years experience, local resident. Jeffrey, 753-1707.

Drop-In Hatha Yoga. Learn yoga postures, deep relaxation, and breathing techniques. We offer Prenatal, Parent/Baby, Gentle, and Advanced Yoga classes, too. Beginners are welcome. Bring a towel, loose clothing, and empty stomach. Classes daily. Phone 415-821-1117 for the class schedule. \$9 (\$6 for first class and seniors). Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St.

Roofing Professional. Many years experience. Three years architecture school. Bachelor's degree. Dutch gutters plus all general roofing problems solved. References and guaranteed materials. Quality metal work. Shingles, flat roofs, cedar siding, gutters, new skylights. 415-978-9375.

Guitar and Bass Lessons. Noe Valley, Bernal Heights. Former Pickle Family Circus music director, composer of Academy Award-winning film. B.A. Berklee, 20 years of teaching experience. All ages, beginners welcome. Fun, reasonable. Mark, 282-8244; www.kennedymusicstudio.com.

All Things Macintosh: Internet making you crazy? Troubleshooter for hire! Solve mysterious freezes. Improve performance. Software support, tutoring. References. Roslyn, 510-526-1209.

40¢ a word!

NOE VALLEY VOICE
CLASS ADS

The deadline is the
15th of the month.

Zee Vjesalicu, RMT/CMT
Certified Massage Therapist

Holiday Special

60 Minutes: \$55 / 90 Minutes \$70

Offer Expires 1/31/03

415-515-3611

Swedish Relaxation Massage
Sports Massage Therapy
Acupressure
Deep Tissue Therapy

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Time for a Change? I believe you already know everything you need to know to live a rich and fulfilling life. Sometimes, though, we lose touch with this knowledge. Psychotherapy can help you reconnect. My areas of interest and experience include life transitions, identity issues, chronic illness, mind/body connections, anxiety/panic, grief, creativity, lesbian/gay issues, depression, early traumas, and crosscultural issues. Sliding scale. Marilyn Jean, L.M.F.T. #35206. Noe Valley, 789-8506.

Home and Office Cleaning. Excellent references, reasonable prices. Russkaya and Alexis, 415-823-0531.

Get Organized! Give yourself a holiday gift. Let me help you create an organized, peaceful environment. Susan Bloch, 282-0218.

Drop-In Parent/Baby Yoga. This class is for parents and their pre-crawling babies. It includes gentle stretching, chanting, breathing, deep relaxation, sharing, and discussion. Fridays, 9:30 to 11 a.m. \$9. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

House Cleaning. I clean homes and apartments. Kitchens, baths, floors, stoves, refrigerators, ovens. Seven days a week. I have references and experience. Please call Maria, 415-841-9875.

Piano Lessons in Noe Valley: Learn piano with patient, supportive teacher. Lessons tailored to individual goals. Music degree and 24 years of teaching experience. Ear training, theory, classical or popular repertoire, MIDI lab. Barbara Bennett, 648-1007.

Handywoman Julie will repair those inside and outside problems you aren't getting around to and wish you could. Get reliable, friendly, and creative help now. Call 550-6792.

Drop-In Prenatal Yoga. Yoga stretches, breathing practices, and deep relaxation can assist you in maintaining an easeful, peaceful, and joyful pregnancy and a more relaxed birth. Tuesdays, 7:30 to 9 p.m., and Thursdays, 6 to 7:30 p.m. \$9. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

Flute Lessons. Noe Valley-based flutist with B.A. and M.M. in music and pedagogy, accepting students of all ages and levels. 20 years experience. Carla, 415-648-3651.

House Cleaning. Homes, offices, and apartments. If you are looking for someone honest and responsible to clean your home, call Selva at 650-748-2496 or 415-203-2496.

Living Tai Chi Chuan of Noe Valley. Meditation, Qigong, Tai Chi forms. Friendly, non-competitive. Monday and Tuesday, 6 p.m., Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. Mornings by appointment, 10:15 a.m., Douglass Park, Douglass at 27th. \$5 introduction (Mondays excluded). Chris Sequeira, practicing since 1973. 650-756-6857; 415-773-8185.

Fog City Dog. "A nice walk in the Noe Valley." Bonded. Louis Olds, 824-9374.

Learn Spanish Now with Weekend en Español! Weekdays and weekends, all levels; also Medical Spanish. Or join us for Semana en Español, our unique total immersion program in Oaxaca, Mexico. New! Oaxaca for Non-Spanish Speakers, May 10 through 19! 415-923-0754; info@weekenden-espanol.com.

Red's Hauling. Yardwork, basements, miscellaneous. Free estimates! 415-281-0732.

Architect. New buildings, remodels, additions. Very good record getting city approvals for projects. Innovative design and traditional (Victorian) design. On-site consultation on any project. Reasonable fees. Licensed architect for over 25 years. In Noe Valley since 1981. Call Michael Hager at 415-285-7409.



Lima's Handyman Service. We do: bath, dry-wall, painting, texture, hauling, backyards, garages. Free estimate. Efficient, reliable, excellent references. Phone 650-270-3934 or 650-219-8822, or e-mail limashandyman@cs.com.

Overwhelmed by Clutter? Relocating? As featured on HGTV, NPR, and in the *Chronicle*, Ship-Shape offers expert, simple solutions to what goes where. We will cut through clutter, defrazzle moves, and restore simplicity and peace of mind to busy lives. Homes, offices, packing, and more. Free phone consultation and brochure. 415-550-0658.

Sandra Ducheneaux, Licensed Massage Therapist. 415-207-2907. Deep-tissue techniques to relieve injuries, tension, and chronic pain. 15 years experience, located in Noe Valley.

Quaint "Victorian Garden" B&B near 26th and Sanchez. Private and ground level. Living room, fireplace, bathroom, bedroom with queen-size bed, office nook, flower-filled patio/garden, laundry facilities, phone, sound system, cable TV, plentiful breakfast items. Apartment is lovely and quiet. Two-night minimum. Reasonably priced. Call 206-0202.

A Whole New Outlook! The GutterSnipes do windows. Free estimates. Senior discounts. 824-9374.

Charming Short-Term Rental. The Dolores Studio—sunny, furnished apartment with separate entrance, private bathroom, kitchenette. Looking onto lovely garden, it's ideal for visiting family, business, romantic weekend. Fabulous Noe Valley location. Reasonable rates. Samantha, 415-285-5677; doloresstudio@yahoo.com.

Housecleaning. Since 1979. Many original customers. Richard, 415-255-0389.

Need an Extra Bedroom/Bath for visiting relatives or friends? Rent ours. No frills. Low cost. 282-2550.

Nurture Yourself or a Loved One this holiday season with a Swedish massage. Therapeutic one hour sessions in your home or mine. Very reasonable prices. Call Kim at 647-7533.

Furniture Restoration. Complete antique and modern furniture restoration. Careful European craftsmanship. Expert refinishing. Custom upholstery. Caning. Veneering. Quality repairing. Competitive prices. Impressive portfolio and references. Estimates, pickup, and delivery available. Call Boris, 415-587-3416.

Business Opportunity: <http://LD.net?urawinner>

Vacation Room Rental. Upper Noe Valley. Clean, safe, comfortable. Ideal for visiting family. Sue. 415-821-4890 or emarsh5108@aol.com.



Questions and Answers with Swami Asokananda. Come join us for an informative and inspiring evening. Swami Asokananda, President of Satchidananda Ashram, has dedicated his life to the practices of yoga since he was 18 years old. His wisdom, equanimity, and embodiment of the yogic teachings are an inspiration to us all. Friday, Dec. 6, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$20. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

House Cleaning. Need help keeping your house clean? Here is the solution. Excellent references, great availability, honest and responsible. We offer free estimates and affordable prices. For more information call Maria at 415-452-3497.

M.D./Psychotherapist: Integrative psychotherapy and psychiatry. 20th and Dolores. 415-285-3774.

Fog City Petsitting. Since 1988. Felines are my specialty. Vacation care, assistance with medical treatments.... Don't hesitate to call for additional information: 835-2107, Julie.

Studio or Room short or long term. 415-826-1158.

Suppression Can Lead to Depression. Make room for all of you! Enjoy therapeutic arts-based expression. You will thank yourself. Sue Lebeck, M.A., Expressive Arts Therapist. 415-821-3456.

Experienced Tutor Available. English, French, Biology, study skills, English SAT (grades 1 through 12), Math, Science (grades 1 through 7). Previously taught grammar school, currently teach adults' classes. Call 415-401-7234.

Thai Yoga Massage and Classical Shiatsu. Light to medium or deep pressure. Comfortable, healthful stretches. 60/90/120-minute sessions, \$75/\$110/\$145. Peaceful location. References. 12 years experience. Trained in Asia. Licensed in San Francisco. Call Stephen Cavaliere at Wisdom Fitness of Noe Valley, 415-505-0409.

S.O.S.: Secretarial Organizational Services. Projects, w/p, mailings, resumes, etc. Helene, 346-5984; Hippwinkler@yahoo.com.

Stereo Repair House Calls or home theater setup? Gene's Sound Service makes it easy...and convenient, with a day, evening, or Saturday appointment. All repairs done on-site. Car stereos, also. "Gene's honest and knows his stuff; give him a try," says Bobby McFerrin. Call Gene at 377-1258.

Two-Hour Hatha/Raja Yoga Class. Mixed-level. This class consists of extended Hatha Yoga poses, pranayama, meditation, and a discussion of how to calm the mind and abide in our place of peace and joy. Tuesdays, 9 to 11 a.m. \$10. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

Home and Office Cleaning. Excellent references, service six days a week. Russkaya and Alexis, 415-823-0531.

Garden Cottage in the Heart of Noe Valley. Perfect for visiting friends and family. Secluded and detached with private deck. Completely furnished. Fully equipped kitchen. Cable TV/VCR, stereo, five CD player, cassette, telephone. Short-term rental. Minimum two nights. Sleeps two. Non-smoking. 415-970-8177; sfcottage4rent@aol.com.

Need Help with Fat Loss, strength gains, balance/coordination? My name is Mike Clausen, a certified Personal Trainer, with creative, fun ideas to help you achieve your fitness goals. For a free consultation, 415-533-3605; mike_clausen@att.net.

Cleaning Professional. 17 years experience. Apartments, homes, or offices. Roger Miller, 415-664-0513.

Controlled by Food? Freedom and relief are available. Come to an ongoing therapy group for women. Lorraine Woods, M.F.T. 978-0858.

Custom Woodworking. Remodeling and repair inside or outside of your home. Stairs, kitchens, baths, decks, fences, etc. Reliable, honest, and friendly, with local references. Call John at 244-4817 or 415-332-6845.

Tired of Feeling Sick and Tired? If you are concerned about your relationship with drugs/alcohol, please call Blair Drummond, Board Certified Alcohol and Drug Specialist. For confidential assessment 441-2323.

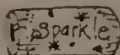
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How to Place a Class Ad

IT'S EASY. Just type or print the text of your ad, multiply the number of words by **40¢ A WORD**, and send us a check or money order for the total amount. (Note that a phone number, including area code, counts as just one word.)

Then mail your ad copy and check, made out to the *Noe Valley Voice*, so that we receive it by the **15TH OF THE MONTH** before the month you'd like to advertise in. The address is *Noe Valley Voice* Class Ads, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. (Sorry, the *Voice* is unable to accept Class Ads by phone or e-mail at this time.)

10 FOR 10 DISCOUNT: The *Noe Valley Voice* publishes a news edition 10 months a year. (We're on vacation in January and August.) If you place the *same* class ad in 10 issues, you are entitled to a 10 percent discount. To figure your cost, deduct 10 percent from the total amount due for 10 issues.

The next *Noe Valley Voice* will be the February 2003 issue, distributed in Noe Valley on or before Feb. 1. **THE DEADLINE FOR CLASS ADS IS JAN. 15, 2003.**

Note: Class Ads are printed in the newspaper and then displayed on our web site (www.noevalleyvoice.com) for one month (or, in the case of the December/January issue, for two months).

Class advertisers should keep in mind that only the first few words of the ad (not to exceed one line of type) will be set in bold. Also, receipts and tear sheets will be provided only if your order is accompanied by an SASE. Thank you.

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and now for the RUMORS behind the news

Noecrats and Valleypublicans

By Mazook

VOTE IS A VERB: The Noe votes for the November general election have been tabulated by the S.F. Department of Elections, and there weren't enough of them. Consequently, the Noe Valley Bureau of Investigation (NVBI) has lowered our neighborhood's political credibility rating to a C—because only 56.7 percent of the 16,476 registered voters in Noe Valley actually voted.

According to the NVBI, the turnout for the city as a whole was a dismal 50 percent. In some neighborhoods, a mere 32 percent bothered to go to the polls.

Even those go-getters in Diamond Heights, who led the city in voter turnout, scored just 60.2 percent. The second-place neighborhood was Eureka Valley/Upper Market (59.8%), followed by West of Twin Peaks (59%). Noe Valley finished fourth, with Sea Cliff/Presidio Heights licking at our heels.

To wake up the electorate, the NVBI has issued a citywide alert, saying democracy itself is in peril. "We Noe Valleons know that when a lot of people don't vote in elections, bad things happen," the NVBI warns. It then quotes Jean Jacques Rousseau: "All that is necessary for the forces of evil to win the world is for enough good people to do nothing."

☎ ☎ ☎

WE'RE MORE GREEN THAN GRAY: If you look at Noe by the numbers, things get interesting.

In the governor's race, Democrat Gray Davis won handily in Noe, with 66 percent of our votes. But Green Party candidate Peter Miguel Camejo racked up a surprising 19 percent, pushing Republican Bill Simon into third place with 9 percent. (Libertarian Gary Copeland lagged way back with 1.5 percent.)

In the U.S. House of Representatives race, Noe Valleons gave Democrat Nancy Pelosi a whopping 78 percent. Her nearest rival, Republican Michael German, got just 8 percent of our votes. As you know, Pelosi has become the first woman in history to be elected minority

(that's all us Democrats and left-leaners) leader of the House—the one bright spot in these otherwise redneck times.

In his run for State Assembly, Democrat and soon-to-be-former District 8 Supervisor Mark Leno tallied 76 percent of Noe votes, with a distant second place going to the GOP's Gail Neira (10%).

In the state propositions, we voted in favor of Housing Assistance (Prop. 46) and School Building Bonds (Prop. 47) by a three-to-one margin, but Arnold Schwarzenegger's After-School Programs (Prop. 49) lost in Noe Valley by about three percentage points. (It won statewide.)

Here is how N.V. voted on some of the more controversial local propositions:

A (Heich Heichy Water)	6,231 yes	2,345 no
B (Affordable Housing)	5,359 yes	3,494 no
D (S.F. Power)	4,661 yes	4,085 no
L (Real Estate Transfer Tax)	4,112 yes	4,618 no
N ("Care Not Cash")	5,271 yes	3,657 no
O (Exits fr. Homelessness)	4,209 yes	4,485 no
R (Condo Conversions)	3,437 yes	5,289 no
S (Medical Marijuana)	6,338 yes	2,469 no

Noe Valley sided with the winner on all but Prop. D (lost citywide) and Prop. B, which needed a two-thirds vote to pass.

In the closely watched race for District 8 representative on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Noe Valley gave candidate Eileen Hansen (34%) a slim victory over rival Bevan Dufty (33%). (Districtwide, Hansen garnered 36.3 percent to Dufty's 32.5 percent.) Next in the Noe pecking order came Tom Radulovich (20%), James Green (8%), Starchild (3%), and Shawn O'Hearn (1.5%).

Since no one candidate won a majority, there will be a runoff election between Hansen and Dufty on Tuesday, Dec. 10. If you didn't vote last time, you can redeem yourself by reporting to your polling place promptly at 7 a.m. (polls close at 8 p.m.). Actually, you can vote at City Hall anytime between now and the election.

To encourage model behavior, the NVBI is hereby awarding a certificate of recognition to Phoenix Books and Records, which closed its doors on election day, Nov. 5, and offered a 20 percent discount to any customer who brought in their ballot receipt the next day.

☎ ☎ ☎

VALLEY VICE: The Fred Methner Memorial Bench has mysteriously disappeared from its spot in front of the Noe Valley Ministry (1021 Sanchez Street near 23rd). Evidently some misguided miscreant carted it off on Halloween night and forgot to bring it back.

The bench was a gift, with a plaque in honor of Methner, who was a leader and



Customers were left high and dry after the Juice It at 24th and Sanchez closed suddenly at the end of October. Photo by Pamela Gerard

"first secretary" for over 20 years of the East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club. He was a champion of 24th Street preservation and the unofficial mayor of Noe Valley. Over the years, Methner eradicated about 4 bazillion graffiti tags on neighborhood walls, using his own paint and ladder. He died in 1991.

Perhaps you or someone you know has seen the bench. Just return it, no questions asked, or leave it in Noe Courts or up at Douglass Park where someone can find it and return it to the Ministry.

The Ministry also reports that on Saturday, Nov. 16, one of the weavings on display by the San Francisco Weaver's Guild disappeared from the southwest corner wall of the sanctuary. It was created by Barbara Nitzberg and was a replica of an ancient Peruvian fabric, in natural and dyed linen. Please return it, too—but not to Noe Courts. Or you may

call 282-2317 if you have clues to either of these items' whereabouts.

☎ ☎ ☎

STOCKING STUFFERS: It was curtains for Tom and Dave's Juice It on the corner of 24th and Sanchez streets at the beginning of last month. The once-thriving smoothie parlor closed its doors without warning on Oct. 31. Taped to the door was a letter from the building owner saying Juice It had "ahruptly broken their lease agreement...and closed their doors for good," and that the space is now available for lease. Attempts to reach Tom Burwell and Dave Allen have been futile. Their recorded message says, "Your call cannot be answered at this time. Goodbye."

Everyone is waiting to see what will replace the former barbershop on the corner of Church and 25th streets. The latest buzz is that it may become a Chinese take-out restaurant.

As far as the Star Bakery storefront at Church and 29th goes, according to the real estate agent, it has indeed been rented. The new tenant will be putting in a restaurant, but probably not Chinese takeout.

Rumors sprang up that Walgreen's on Castro Street had changed the store's parking policy to one hour for its shoppers only. Apparently a simple change in syntax on their sign caused a mild panic in Downtown Noe Valley, where a parking place is a valuable commodity. The parking professionals who monitor the Walgreen's lot say there has been no change, and you can still park free and shop anywhere, even at Rite Aid, for that first hour. The second hour, on the other hand, will cost you \$8.50.

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CONSTRUCTION PAPER It's a go for the demolition of a Noe Valley landmark.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 62



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RUMORS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 61

Dan's Gas Station at 24th and Vicksburg. A 29-stall parking lot, attendant kiosk, and mini-park will be built by the Noe Valley Parking Corporation, which is a venture of the Noe Valley Ministry and a national group of Presbyterian donors who want to promote urban church attendance. They fronted the \$3 million-plus to purchase the property, which will be available for public parking when church isn't in session.

According to the project chief, we should see some construction activity by

Christmas. Once the lot is complete, one of Dan's driveways will be closed, which should add a couple more spaces to the street parking.

The trash and debris have been cleared out in front of the boarded-up house at 3953 24th Street, across from Bell Market. The rumor is that the building will be demolished and a four-unit condo complex built, with two ground-level commercial stores and space for residential parking below. The neighborhood groups should be snooping this out as we speak.

That notorious little house at 1329 Sanchez near 26th is on the market again, this time for \$699,000. The house was owned and occupied for decades by Anna Muru, who earned the name "The Pigeon Lady" with her daily feeding of Noe Valley's flock. Hundreds of eager birds

perched on wires and rooftops near her house and had Muru's neighbors spitting feathers. She was finally ordered by S.F. Superior Court to stop the pigeon feeding, or else. She picked "or else," sold the cottage for \$249,000 in 1997, and retired to her native Estonia. The house was gutted and remodeled, and has already been sold once since then. Most of the pigeons seem to be gone, too—to Estonia, no doubt.

☺ ☺ ☺

NOE SOUP FOR YOU: A new soup specialist has established his administrative headquarters near the corner of Church and Jersey. Three years ago, Noe Valley resident Chuck Zimmer tasted a terrific bowl of soup while traveling in London. As he slurped his way through Europe, he decided it was time to get out of the hectic brokerage consulting business and to make soup, healthy schmaltzy soup.

In 1999, Zimmer founded Heartland Soups, a line of preservative-free, low-salt, low-fat, but still tasty soups. A bunch of varieties—there's Butternut Corn Chowder, Carrot Ginger, Beef Lentil, Chicken Artichoke, and Black Bean Chili, to name a few—are now made in a production facility in the South Bay and distributed all over the Bay Area, including at Whole Foods and Mollie Stone's.

They've also been available for a while at Lite for Life, the nutritional counseling place at the corner of Sanchez and 26th. Now, according to Heartland marketing chief and Zimmer pal H. Joseph Ehrmann ("Just call me 'H'"), the soups will be going into the Real Food Company on 24th Street. And Tom's Peasant Pies on 24th above Castro also has plans to stock them.

The price is \$3.69 for a 16-ounce serving; they come in airtight paper tubs. Zimmer (just call him Chuck) says if you haven't tried them, he'll be happy to run a soup order over to Lite for Life for you. Just call him at 647-6732 and say you're

a Noe Valleon. To take a look at other soup choices, go to www.heartlandsoups.com.

☺ ☺ ☺

LASTLY BUT NOT LEASTLY: Noe Valleons made the most contributions in 2002 to the city's Voluntary Arts Contribution Fund (VACF), which has distributed more than \$100,000 to 32 different theater groups, children's educational projects, arts programs, and the like. According to fund administrators Karina Kinik and Jo Ann Driscoll, the zip codes 94114, 94110, and 94131 (in that order) have the most philanthropists in the city. Congrats and keep it up in 2003.

Meanwhile, have a terrific Hanukkah, a heartwarming Christmas, a wonderful Kwanzaa, and a happy New Year. We'll be back in February with all the Noes that's fit to print. Ciao. □

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Noe Valley Named a Great Place to Live, Though Darned Expensive

Finally, a national magazine has awarded our little neighborhood the kind of raves we've smugly espoused for years. In its December 2002 issue, *Money* magazine rated Noe Valley one of "the best neighborhoods in 10 great cities" in the U.S.

In explaining the choice, *Money* says: "Noe Valley would certainly top many San Franciscans' list of great places to live. Its main drag, 24th Street, has all the bistros, brunch spots, and boutiques you could ask for. Yet even though Noe Valley looks like a middle-class neighborhood when compared with Russian Hill or Pacific Heights, homes there can sell for close to \$1 million." (Actually, luxury homes in our hamlet routinely sell for *more* than \$1 million.)

If the neighborhood seems a bit pricey, the magazine suggests you become a Noe neighbor and live in the Mission District or Bernal Heights.

But if you're lucky enough to live here already, hey, bask in the limelight.

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